

minutes, and often within a half hour virtually all the ants had recongregated at a single site often different from the original site. During four such cases of worker dispersal I recorded one instance in which a major carried a mass of eggs and microlarvae, and three of a major carrying larvae. When majors held immatures in an undisturbed colony they gripped them gently. During disruptions, however, majors squeezed the brood severely, so that the larvae were pinched. Whether this ever resulted in brood death is not known.

If a shaded nest site was made available to the ants after exposing the current site to a moderately strong light, transfer of workers and brood to that site usually began within an hour. The ants which originally held immatures in place were generally not those that carried them to the new site; rather, most or perhaps all of the carrying was accomplished by those often relatively few individuals that had previously been to the new site. If an immature was held by a worker, the approaching ant would antennate the immature, then grasp it in her mandibles and pull gently, her antennae sometimes palpating the other worker. The worker usually released its grip within one to 15 seconds, at which point the first ant promptly carried it away. The ants that had never left the original site gradually appeared to become aroused by the activities of the workers around them, until they, too, sought out and found the new site.

I observed only one instance of adult transport in the course of a shift in colony location, when a normally pigmented minor worker carried a teneral worker. Whether the transfer process also involved some other, more subtle form of recruitment is unclear. However, well defined routes between the old site and the new were lacking. The size of the observation box limited these shifts in nest location to at most a few centimeters; emigrations over greater distances might well be differently organized.

*Acanthomyrmex ferox*. Shifts in nest location also occurred in captive *A. ferox*. These were initiated by the queen, which often ran out of the brood area following a disturbance; workers and males at the nest site were not so readily disturbed and thus were usually left behind. When one or more workers located her again the colony shifted to her new location. Minor workers carried the brood and males. The males were grasped dorsally at the trunk or waist, with their heads directed either up or down.