



Figure 3. Major worker of *Acanthomyrmex notabilis* biting a forceps tip while clinging to a chunk of soil.

lowered its head so that the intruder was confronted with the broad expanse of the head in full face view, and then brought its gaster under its body, aiming it intermittently at the intruder. Majors sometimes bit and occasionally killed *Pheidologeton* minors, but never *Solenopsis* and *Monomorium* ants, even those with their gasters removed. Workers were most likely to confront an intruder approaching the brood area, and usually fled from workers of other ant species encountered elsewhere.

In two cases I observed an *A. notabilis* major bite and kill insects other than ants; these were a 3 mm embiopteran and a termite worker. Both insects had approached the brood area, at which time the major had responded rapidly and effectively, while minors