

do do Campo, São Paulo, Suzano, Serra da Bocaina, Serra da Cantareira, Teodoro Sampaio; Rio de Janeiro: Mendes, Petrópolis, Pôrto das Caixas; Guanabara: Rio de Janeiro (Corcovado e Floresta da Tijuca); Minas Gerais: Carmo da Cachoeira, Mariana, Monsenhor Paulo, Ouro Fino, Passa Quatro; Espírito Santo: Santa Teresa; Goiás: Anápolis, Goiânia (Campinas).

Os trabalhos de Luederwaldt (1926 p. 233) e Eidmann (1936 p. 34) encerram notícias detalhadas acêrca da biografia da espécie.

SUMMARY

The present study deals with the Brazilian species of the ant genus *Pachycondyla* Fr. Smith. It contains a key to the species for workers and females, new locality records and a discussion of the differential characters for each species. Several new synonyms for *P. impressa* (Rog.) and a new species, *P. lenis*, from southern Brazil, are also presented. The new species is close to *P. harpax* (F.), workers and females differing mainly in the sharp mid-longitudinal keel of the clypeus, the bluntly marginate sides of the pronotum, the striking reduction of striato-rugose sculpture on the sides of head and dorsum of thorax.

In the introduction the author stresses the unreliability of the characters presently used for separating *Pachycondyla* from *Neoponera*. A newly discovered character consists in a clearly delimited area in the middle of the acrotergite II of the gaster and is presumably a stridulatory organ. Absent in all more typical *Pachycondyla* species, it is found in the also otherwise aberrant *P. magnifica* and *metanotalis* and in all species of *Neoponera*. In view of the still insufficient evidence, the author refrains from introducing at this place changes affecting genus-level classification.

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