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REMARKS ON THE ANT GENUS "IROGERA" EMERY, WITH
THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES (Hymenoptera,
Formicidae)¹

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(With 4 text-figures)

Irogera was proposed by EMERY in 1915 as a subgenus of *Rogeria* for two New World species: *procera* Emery, 1896 and *tonduzi* Forel, 1899. MANN (1921) added to this group several Oriental-Pacific species which, however, according to BROWN (1953) should be shifted to *Lordomyrma*. SANTSCHI (1930, 1936), moreover, included into *Irogera* several ill-differentiated species from Cuba (*brunnea*, *caraiba*, *cubensis*), which to my mind are really members of *Rogeria* s. str. On the other hand, *Macromischa scandens* Mann, 1922 is not a *Macromischa* at all, but doubtless a member of *Irogera*. Hence *Irogera* is taken here as a group-name for a small complex of rather rare and exclusively Neotropical ants.

BROWN (1953), suspecting that *Irogera* was something very close to if not synonymous with *Hylomyrma* Forel, proposed to raise *Irogera* to full generic rank, at least as a provisional measure. It is now known that this suspicion was unfounded. Nevertheless, I intend to follow BROWN in treating *Irogera* as a full genus, but for different reasons. In spite of the close relationship to *Rogeria*, *Irogera* workers possess a few distinctive traits which may eventually prove good and reliable. The sexual formes of *Irogera*, except for an undiagnosed female from the Argentine mentioned by EMERY (1896), and the larvae are still unknown.

The scope of the present study does not reach beyond a preliminary investigation; it contains a discussion of the characters and relationships of *Irogera*, the proposition of a new synonym for *Irogera procera* (Emery) and of a new combination, *Irogera scandens* (Mann, 1922), and the description of a new species from southeastern Brazil. All specimens actually seen during

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