

only once. In moist red clay under a stone he found a small irregular chamber with about 30 ants. The fungus garden, a small mass of approximately 2 cc in volume, consisted of caterpillar droppings studded with bromatia that scarcely differed from those of *Cyphomyrmex rimosus* and allies, the only Attine ants known to cultivate a yeast. Wheeler's discordant observation poses an interesting problem, but also needs further confirmation.

According to Eidmann, the colonies are polygynous. At any rate he found several dealated queens in a single nest chamber. The same author proclaims a lestopibiotic relationship between *M. smithi* and *Atta sexdens* because he found a great many nest chambers of the former between the cavities made by the latter. However, if any such relationship exists, it is not obligatory since *M. smithi* also occurs in areas where no sign of an *Atta* sp. could be discovered. Perhaps this association, of which no details are known, dissolves itself in the loose relationship of facultative synoecetes.

In southeastern Brazil *M. smithi* lives occasionally side by side with *M. goeldii* under the same ecological conditions. Kerr (1961) even found 3 males of the former in a swarm of 150 males of the latter species at Rio Claro, São Paulo State, Brazil. None of the *smithi* males attempted to mate with *goeldii* queens.

Mycocepurus tardus Weber

Mycocepurus tardus Weber, 1940: 416-417, fig. 13 (Worker; Panama Canal Zone: Barro Colorado Island).

Worker (lectotype). — Total length 2.9 (3.1) mm; head length 0.68 (0.71) mm; head width 0.64 (0.68) mm; scape length 0.56 (0.56) mm; thorax length 0.88 (0.93) mm; hind femur length 0.67 (0.69) mm. Reddish-brown; opaque.

Resembling quite closely *smithi* in general habitus and sculpture, presenting the following differences: Occipital teeth quite prominent. Base of scape obliquely truncate in front of articular condyle, laterally and ventrally with a prominent carinule around base (incomplete ring). Promesonotum with a prominent pair of teeth in the middle of the circlet; infero-lateral tooth of pronotum small but distinct. Anterior pair of posterior mesonotal teeth practically absent, of epinotal teeth extremely low and blunt; connecting longitudinal carinules between posterior mesonotal and epinotal teeth absent or only vestigial. Clypeus and dorsum of scapes with erect hairs; tibiae and dorsum of gaster with curved not quite appressed hairs.

This species is known only from Barro Colorado Island, Panama Canal Zone.

Specimens examined: Barro Colorado Island, Panama C. Z., June 12, 1938, N. A. Weber leg. n. 749, 1 worker (lectotype); same locality, N. A. Weber leg. June 1956, 1 worker (both in WWK received from NAW).