

So far as is known, the ants of genus *Centromyrmex* are specialized termite-eaters. For our region, the pertinent observations have been recorded by Luederwaldt (1926), Mann (1934) and Borgmeier (1937). According to their testimony, the ants live with, and feed on, termites (principally of genus *Syntermes*).

#### Key to the Species for Workers and Females

1. Petiole scarcely longer than broad, the anterior face of node oblique, the dorsal face completely rounded in profile (Figs. 1 and 2); clypeus with a prominent tumulus on disc ..... *alfaroi* Emery
- Petiole distinctly longer than broad, anterior face of node perpendicular to elongate and straight dorsal face (Figs. 3, 4, 9, 10); clypeus without a tumulus on disc ..... 2
2. Smaller species, thorax length not over 2 mm; mandibles minutely to indistinctly denticulate, chewing border forming almost a right angle with basal border (Fig. 5); petiole with a short and pointed subpetiolar process (Fig. 3) ..... *brachycola* (Roger)
- Larger species, thorax length well over 2.5 mm; mandibles distinctly dentate on basal third, chewing border forming a very obtuse angle with basal border (Fig. 8); petiole with a prominent apically rounded to subtruncate subpetiolar process (Fig. 9) ..... *gigas* Forel

#### *Centromyrmex alfaroi* Emery .

(Figs. 1, 2)

*Centromyrmex alfaroi* Emery, 1890: 40 (Worker; Costa Rica: Alajuela). — Emery, 1905: 115 (Female; Bolivia: Mapiro).

**Type.** — A lone worker (holotype) without antennae, presumably in the Emery collection in Genova; not seen.

**Worker.** — According to the original description, this species is larger than *brachycola*, smaller than *gigas* (the total length given for the holotype, a single-spread measurement, is 7.75 mm). Head broader than long with the sides converging cephalad. Clypeus convex, with an elevated median tumulus on disc, without a median longitudinal impression. Metapleura striate. Thorax strongly compressed at mesoepinotal junction, the basal face of epinotum grading continuously into the declivous face. Legs comparatively short and stout. Metatarsus of hind legs much shorter than tibiae. Petiole rather short, anterior face straight and oblique, dorsum completely rounded. Color dark ferruginous.

**Female.** — Total length 8.8 mm; head length 1.39 mm; head width 1.60 mm; maximum diameter of eyes 0.53 mm; thorax length 2.77 mm; hind tibiae length 0.99 mm; hind metatarsus