

room for stock. The few that are found usually occur in moist ravines or on the edges of swamps. However, none have been found in the very moist hemlock ravines of southern Ohio. They are evidently associated rather with white oak woods, the white oak-chestnut association of ecologists.

Nothing appears to be known of the food habits of the Ohio species. The slender sharply-toothed jaws and the highly developed glossa and maxillary combs suggest that they may be eaters of fungus mycelium. On boiling in KOH they do not show fragments of chitin such as are found in insect-eating ants.

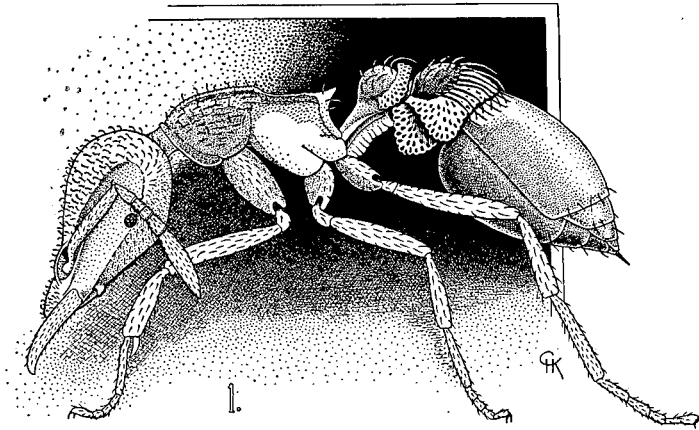


FIG. 1. *Strumigenys ohioensis*, sp. nov., showing the soft, white, fungus-like growths which occur on the petiole in many species of this genus. When boiled in KOH these show a delicate basal structure resembling the pitted surfaces of the other parts of the ant.

The ants of this genus are peculiar in the curious petticoat of soft white tissue which is attached to the petiole and the first segment of the gaster. In our local species these growths are white and look like a spongy fungus. They break down very quickly in KOH. These are shown in Fig. 1. A narrow drape of this hangs down from the underside of the first petiolar segment. A second which is lacy in appearance with its pitted surface is draped about the distal end of this segment, while the largest flounce is from the second segment of the petiole. Usually a narrow band of the same tissue crosses the dorsal side of the anterior end of the gaster. Nothing appears to be known of the structure or function of these parts.