

similar to *tyrannicus*, but no field association of these two species has been reported in those areas.

The case of *kirkae* and *loriai* is again not very convincing. I have all the five workers in the type series of *kirkae* which, according to Donisthorpe (1937, 1940), were taken with its model by Cheesman from Kokoda, Papua. Again, I do not have any specimen of *loriai* from Kokoda, but I do have 17 specimens from Tapini (6), Nadzab (4), Finsch Habor (4), Bisianumu (2), and Moroka (1). They all have black heads and alitrunks. The legs, petioles and gasters are yellow. However, none of the five specimens in the type series of *kirkae* has yellow legs, and as I have already pointed out, only the type and one cotype have the alitrunks and petioles as black as the head. Two other specimens in the type series have almost a uniform yellow all over the body. As to the fifth, it has a gaster as yellow as that of *loriai*, but the legs and the alitrunk and also the petiole are much darker than the gaster (although not as black as the head).

Thus, although this presumed mimicry has been vividly described and illustrated by Donisthorpe, I find it hard to accept. Unfortunately, only Miss Cheesman has had the great opportunity to encounter the species concerned in the field, and no other myrmecologist has ever reported any similar observation since then. Obviously, more field studies of the ants themselves are needed before we can draw any conclusion.

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