Family Formicidae Subfamily Ponerinae

Species examined:

Amblyopone pallipes (Plate 12)
Amblyopone n. sp.
Ectatomma tuberculatum
Gnamptogenys schubarti (Plate 13)
Hypoponera opacior (Plate 14)
Leptogenys group of crassicornis
(Plate 15)
Megaponera foetens (Plate 16)
Myopias n. sp. in maligna group
(Plate 17)
Odontomachus rixosus (Plate 18)

Pachycondyla crassinoda
Paraponera clavata (Plates 19, 20)
Platythyrea schultzei (Plate 21)
Ponera pennsylvanica (Plate 22)
Rhytidoponera turneri (Plate 23)
Simopelta oculata (Plate 24)
Termitopone commutata
(Plates 25, 26)
Typhlomyrmex rogenhoferi
(Plate 27)

Labrum. Most commonly the labrum of ponerines is cleft medially on the distal margin. This cleft is slitlike and, along with the customary emargination of the distal margin, divides the labrum into 2 lobes. In several genera, Gnamptogenys (fig. 38), Paraponera (fig. 64), Playthyrea (fig. 21) and Typhlomyrmex (fig. 94), the median cleft is absent. In these species the distal margin is generally emarginate. The hemocoel in the ponerine labrum consists of 2 arms, 1 extending into each lobe. These arms may or may not be united medially near the distal margin. Labral tubercles are absent (tubercles are present in some species of Myopias not examined here).

Mandible. The mandibles most commonly resemble those of Megaponera foetens (fig. 50), i.e., relatively generalized with distinct masticatory and basal margins. The masticatory margin is provided with numerous teeth. Several modifications of the mandible occur, the most extreme of these being in Odontomachus (fig. 60). Other modifications in shape and dentition occur in Simopelta (fig. 85), Amblyopone (fig. 32), Myopias (fig. 53) and Leptogenys (fig. 44). The trulleum and mandalus are always present, although not always conspicuous.

Maxilla. The maxillary palpus varies in the species examined from 1 segment in Hypoponera opacior (fig. 40) to 5 in Paraponera clavata (fig. 62); four segments is most common among the species. The stipites assume a variety of shapes, but commonly they resemble that of Termitopone commutata (fig. 90), in which the lateral margin is conspicuously curved outward. In most species 1 to 3 long setae are inserted at various locations on the proximal half of the stipes. These setae are not present in the 2 species of Amblyopone examined. A transverse stipital groove that accommodates the distal margin of the labrum is present in Amblyopone sp., Rhytidoponera turneri (fig. 79), Gnamptogenys schubarti (fig. 35), and Typhlomyrmex rogenhoferi (fig. 96). The stipes is often heavily sclerotized. The galea varies in shape from the long, narrow type of Termitopone commutata (fig. 88) to the shorter and broader type of Simopelta oculata (fig. 87). The galeal crown is flattened and bears a number of setae that may vary in thickness and shape, as can be seen in Rhytidoponera turneri