

would expect to find even in a nest series of *exsectoides*. It must be remembered that the types of the supposed *hesperia* came from Colorado Springs.

To return to the species of greatest concern in this paper, Creighton believes that *opaciventris* should stand as a well defined form and not as a subspecies of *exsectoides* where it was placed by Wheeler in 1913. Emery had originally described it as a variety of the same in 1893. Creighton's treatment may be the wiser, but from the descriptions of differences among the females as noted above, and the workers which also differ only in the greater pilosity of *opaciventris*, it may be necessary to return to Wheeler's proposal. The differences enumerated, at best, seem to be rather slight, hence it would appear possible to consider the two ants as very closely related with *opaciventris* a subspecies of *exsectoides*. Moreover, the ranges of these insects, though heretofore regarded as far apart, actually overlap, but the degree of overlap is at present very uncertain. Creighton gives Nova Scotia to Georgia and west to Wisconsin and Iowa as the territory of *exsectoides*, while *opaciventris* is a Rocky Mountain form. Specimens of both of these species are present in my collections from the vicinity of Boulder, Colorado, the former from foothills at about 7500 feet, and the latter from the plains at slightly over 5000 feet. Thus we have to revise westward our conception of the range of *exsectoides*, and the range of *opaciventris* is now known to extend to lower altitudes and perhaps eastward on the plains. It may be found, when more material is gathered, that the two forms intergrade, and if so they will have to be classed as subspecies.

*Formica ulkei* should stand alone as a distinct species. The ranges of *ulkei* and *exsectoides* are known to overlap in northern Illinois and Indiana, southern Wisconsin, and Iowa, but the ants remain morphologically distinct even though the nests of each are practically identical in appearance. I have specimens of *ulkei* and *exsectoides* collected within a few hundred feet of each other at Palos Park, Illinois, and there is not the faintest indication of intergradation. In the case of these two species, then, we have nothing to show that one could be a subspecies of the