

69. *Pheidole yaqui* Creighton and Gregg

Ph. yaqui Creighton and Gregg, Univ. Colo. Stud., 1955,
Ser. Biol. No. 3, p. 43, ♂, ♀.

Type locality: Yaqui Well, Anza Desert State Park,
California

It will be apparent from the foregoing key and the list of species now recognized in the North American fauna, that there are important changes from the revision which Creighton presented in 1950. Many of these innovations have been treated in our joint paper of 1955 and need not be repeated here, but a few additional ones made since then deserve explanation.

Pheidole californica micula has been raised to species rank because, though related to the *californica* complex, it is quite distinct from the various subspecies of this complex. It is similar to the *californica* group in the possession by the worker major of a small, trapezoidal postpetiole, with no connules, and a shining promesonotum, but it differs in that the cephalic rugae are not rugae at all (rather fine rugules or better striations), and striations are present on the genae also. The humeri lack bosses, and the vertex is smooth and shining. In some respects, *micula* is related to the *sitarches* complex, from the appearance of the transverse occipital striations and the absence of humeral bosses. But it differs from this group in that the vertex is virtually smooth and shining (opaque in *sitarches*), postpetiole is not furnished with blunt connules, and the pronotum is not transversely striated and punctured. In other words, *micula* is structurally intermediate between these two groups, and is best regarded as an independent species.

It has been suspected that *Pheidole californica shoshoni* Cole might be an invalid taxon, and to help determine its status Dr. Cole kindly lent me two paratype soldiers. Comparison of these with soldiers of the subspecies *oregonica* showed the forms to be indistinguishable from each other. The subspecies *shoshoni* must be placed in the synonymy of *oregonica* as the latter has priority. Comparisons were made also between the types of *shoshoni* and the typical *californica*, with the following results. The occipital rugae of *shoshoni* are straight, rugae are almost absent from the sulcus, and the cephalic punctures are no wider in diameter than the hairs, whereas in *californica* the occipital rugae are wavy, rugose reticulations are visible in the sulcus, and the cephalic hair punctures are distinctly wider than the