

hairs arising from them. The crest of the petiole in *californica* is broadly and shallowly emarginate, but in *shoshoni* it is entire and straight. These are the distinctions which separate *californica* and *oregonica* also, and would be expected of *shoshoni*, of course, if as now thought, it is identical with *oregonica*.

Pheidole sciara Cole is closely related to *Ph. cockerelli* Wheeler, and Dr. Cole (1956) has presented a detailed and careful differentiation between these two ants. Upon comparing specimens of *cockerelli* with paratypes of *sciara* kindly given me by Dr. Cole, I am confident they are separate species, and I have summarized the observed differences in the accompanying key. It may be added here that the workers have pilosity like that of their conspecific soldiers, and the pronotum in *sciara* is less shining. Also, the scapes of the *sciara* major are slightly shorter than $\frac{3}{4}$ the distance from their insertions to the occipital border, and thus approach the condition in *crassicornis*.

Pheidole sciara might be easily confused with the polymorphic species *Ph. subdentata* if only intermediates of the latter form were available for identification. Comparison of the major of *sciara* with individuals of *subdentata* comparable in size, shows a number of notable differences as follows: occipital lobes of *sciara* fully rounded (lobes of *subdentata* somewhat flattened laterally, more pointed toward the rear, and producing a constricted aspect to the posterior portion of the head); clypeal border with a distinct and narrow notch (clypeus sinuate in *subdentata*); scapes of *sciara* decidedly shorter; apical mandibular teeth sharp and quite similar except that in *subdentata* a conspicuous sulcus on the blade of the mandible separates the two teeth basally; epinotal spines longer, further apart and quite blunt and rounded at the tip in *sciara*; postpetiole much broader than long in *sciara*, more quadrate in *subdentata*. The full-sized major of *subdentata* shows all these differences in more pronounced degree except the occipital character; the head of the major in *subdentata* is very broad.

The workers (minors) of these two species are readily distinguished by the fact that in *sciara* the head (except for frons and clypeus), the thorax and the pedicel are heavily punctured and opaque, while in *subdentata* the head, pronotum and the tops of the pedicular nodes are smooth and shining. There is a marked notch in the promesonotum of *sciara* and the epinotal