

represents a new species. He also drew my attention to a curious situation in Smith's paper concerning eye-size in *Stenamamma*, which could be a potential hazard to anyone not aware of it. I take the liberty to quote from his letter: "Cushman is a fine illustrator and his figures can be trusted implicitly, but this is not the case in the four outline drawings (5,6,7,8) on page 143 of Smith's monograph. I am ready to agree that these figures are not drawn to the same scale, *S. huachucanum* and *impar* are much smaller ants than *occidentale* and *schmitti*. But in Smith's descriptions you will find that in all four the maximum diameter of the eye is given as 0.10 mm. Furthermore, the number of ommatidia across the greatest diameter of the eye is closely similar for all four species; *huachucanum* 5-7, *impar* 5-6, *occidentale* 4-6, *schmitti* 4-6. In short, they are all small-eyed species. In my opinion the eyes of *schmitti* are shown as too small and those of *impar* and *huachucanum* as too large. On the basis of the figures, however, one would wonder why *impar* and *huachucanum* were not brought out on the key split with the large-eyed species. The only one of the four figures in which the eye-size is correctly shown is *occidentale*."

Despite the use of eye-size by Smith as a convenient method for grouping the species of *Stenamamma*, it appears that he relied heavily upon thoracic sculpture in his revision. The extremely detailed and accurate rendering of this sculpture by Cushman greatly facilitates the separation of these species. I have indicated above how *knowltoni* differs from its most closely allied species, but it is well to emphasize here that its thoracic sculpture differs markedly from almost all the other forms of *Stenamamma*. The dorsum of the thorax is longitudinally rugose for the most part, with a few transverse rugae anteriorly, and the only species with which it might be confused are *impar* and *brevicorne*. Of these two ants, however, the former has very small eyes and the latter has intermediate sized eyes as well as other differences.

Finally, although eye-size will continue to be a useful character in the taxonomy of *Stenamamma*, it should be stressed that no clear-cut distinction is possible between a small-eyed and a large-eyed group of species. This can be demonstrated by expressing the eye-size for all species, as Smith has done, in terms of the number of facets in the greatest diameter, as follows: *heathi*, *sequoiarum*, *impar*, *diecki*, *schmitti*, and *occidentale* 4-6; *huachucanum* 5-7; *foveoloccephalum* 7-8; *brevicorne* and *meridionale* 8-10; *carolinense* and *knowltoni* 10-12.

REFERENCES

- CZECHOWSKI, W. S. 1960. The ants of North America. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 104:1-585 (on 133-138; Pl. 17, fig. 1-4).
SMITH, M. R. 1967. Revision of the Genus *Stenamamma* Westwood in America north of Mexico. Amer. Midl. Nat., 57:133-174.