

Subfamily DOLICODERINAE.

* *Bothriomyrmex adriacus* subsp. *ionia* var. *sicula*, Emery.—This form was described by Emery [*Bull. Soc. Vaud. Sci. Nat.* 56 17 (1925)] in 1925 from two workers taken in Sicily (locality unknown) by de Stefani many years ago.

On April 22nd I found a large and prosperous colony under a stone at Taormina.

* *Iridomyrmex humilis*, Mayr.—On March 21st, 1926, in Palermo, I found a number of workers of this introduced species running in small single files on the pavement of a road towards the outskirts of the town. They appeared to come out of a garden, and one ♂ was observed to be carrying an Aphid. This is the first record for Sicily of this pest—the well-known "Argentine Ant"—which has been rapidly extending its range during the last twenty or thirty years and becoming cosmopolitan. In Madeira it has exterminated the local species. It has been introduced into New Orleans (where it now extends over fully 5000 square miles to the Gulf of Mexico), California, Cape Town and Basutoland. MacDougal sent it to me to name from the Canary Isles in 1924, I received it from Guernsey in 1919, and Forel records it from Central France. In Britain—Carpenter recorded its occurrence in vast numbers in Belfast in 1900, where it caused the greatest inconvenience; Waterston sent it to me to name from Edinburgh in 1912; Fryer, from Enfield in 1916; Theobald from Eastbourne in 1916, (here I understand two streets are uninhabitable on account of the presence of this species): Keys from Plymouth in 1923; in 1921 Holkyard took it in a hot-house at Broadbottom, Cheshire; in 1922 Britten captured ♂♂ in Canary bananas at Fallowfield, Manchester; and in November 1926, I found it at Tring.

Tapinoma nigerrimum, Nyl.—This ant was abundant everywhere, nesting under stones, in mounds and rocks, and running on walls and in gardens, etc. A number of males was observed at Taormina on April 6th running on a rock, in the interstices of which the colony was situated; and males and winged females were found in a large colony nesting under a stone on April 21st. A dealated ♀ was taken on April 6th which was walking along a dusty road. Various myrmecophiles were found with this ant—the beetles, *Stenosia brentoides* var. *sicula*, Sol., occurred in two nests at Mondello on March 17th, and again on April 22nd, at Taormina, *Drusilla memnonius*, Er., in a nest under a stone at Palermo on March 21st; and numerous examples of *Anthicus 4-guttatus*, Rossi, were running in company with workers of this ant in the Excelsior Palace Hotel garden at Taormina in March, looking so ant-like that I was frequently taken in. Young males of two spiders *Micaria* sp.?, and *Phrurolithus* sp.?, which were also very ant-like, were found at Mondello on March 17th running in company with ♂♂ of *T. nigerrimum*. The most interesting find however was an Aphid of the genus *Paracletus*, new to science, which Professor F. V. Theobald has named after me. On April 21st at Taormina I found a number of this new species, one winged form being present, in a nest of *T. nigerrimum* under a stone, and when disturbed the ants hastened to carry away these Plant-lice into safety. On April 24th at Mola it was found again in still greater numbers, with the same ant. Forel and other writers have stated that ants of