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Cardiocondyla bicolor, sp. n. (Hymenoptera, Formicidæ), a
Species of Myrmecine Ant new to Science. By HORACE
DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.E.S., etc.

THE genus *Cardiocondyla*, Emery (1869), consists of a number of small, very characteristic ants, of which some fourteen species and a number of varieties have been described. They occur in the Mediterranean region, Africa, Madagascar, India, Malaya, Oceania, and the Antilles.

Their colonies are not populous, and they live in the ground, the entrance to the nest consisting of a small hole.

A number of females may be present in a colony, but very few males. In some cases the latter are winged, in others apterous; both winged and apterous males may be present in others.

Santschi has seen the ergatoid male carrying the larvæ in the same manner as the workers, and he is of the opinion that the male winged form in this genus is on the way to extinction.

♂. Head, thorax, pedicel, last segments of gaster, antennæ, and legs clear reddish yellow, head and last segments of gaster sometimes slightly darker, long first segment of gaster shining black, eyes dull black.

Head, thorax, and pedicel evenly and finely coriaceous, dull; gaster smooth and shining, with very minute, yellow, decumbent hairs arranged longitudinally in rows.

Head oblong, broader than thorax, eyes slightly longer than their distance from base of mandibles; *scape* of antennæ curved and slightly thickened towards apex, not reaching base of head; *meso-epinotal* suture distinct; *teeth* of *epinotum* sharp, triangular, slightly pointing outwards and downwards; *post-petiole* about one-third broader than *petiole*.

Long. circa 1.7 mm.

Described from six workers taken in Palestine, in 1930, by Drs. Scheinkin and J. Carmin, on *Ficus sycamorus*.

Type and paratypes in the British Museum Collection.

This species comes nearest to *C. parvinoda*, Forel, in the shape of the post-petiole; but the latter insect is more shining and has a shorter and rounder gaster, the spines are straighter and the space between is smooth and shining.

From *C. emeryi*, Forel, it may be known by its sharper spines, considerably narrower post-petiole, lighter colour, less strong sculpture, etc.

From *C. wroughtoni*, Forel, it differs in colour, shorter spines, sculpture, etc.

C. nuda, Mayr, has much shorter spines and the sculpture is quite different.