

*Young*.—Length about 1.0 mm. Generally similar to mature larva.

*Queen*.—Length about 4.6 mm. Body voluminous and turgid. Integument thin. Head actually a third larger than that of the worker, but very small in comparison with the body. Body hairs simple; a few on the prothorax which are very short (0.009-0.018 mm); elsewhere exceedingly minute and widely scattered. Dorsa of posterior somites sparsely spinulose, the spinules minute and in short transverse rows. Head hairs very short (about 0.009 mm), sparse and simple. Labrum subtrapezoidal, narrowed ventrally; ventral border slightly concave. Mandibles with the subapical teeth more acute. Otherwise as in the worker larva.

*Male*.—Length about 3.8 mm. Body voluminous and turgid. Integument thin. Head about equal in size to that of the worker but smaller in relation to body size. Body hairs sparser. Labrum subrectangular in anterior view, with the ventral corners rounded and the ventral border slightly concave. Mandibular teeth more acute. Otherwise similar to worker larva.

*Immature Sexual*.—Length about 2.8 mm. Similar to mature sexual larva except that the body is more inflated. It differs from the soldier larva of the same length by having the head and neck directed antero-ventrally, by appearing much more inflated and by having the contours smooth.

Material studied: numerous larvae from three Texan colonies.

Van Pelt (1950) recorded larvae of the eucharid *Orasema robertsoni* Gahan as parasitic on the larvae and pupae of this ant. Fig. 1A showed an ant larva in side view with a eucharid larva attached.

Wheeler (1901) inferred that the larvae of macroergates of this species (cited as *Ph. commutata*) had been infested with *Mermis* (Nematoda) while in the larval stage. (Also discussed by Wheeler: 1907, p. 18; 1910a, p. 420; 1910b, p. 420; 1928a, p. 204 (= 1926, p. 247); 1928b, p. 197.)

Wheeler (1907, p. 20) stated that this species (cited as *Ph. commutata*) "is exclusively carnivorous and feeds at least its older larvae with pieces of insect food." On page 12 he reported finding *Orasema viridis* in *dentata* colonies. Presumably the eucharid larvae had been parasitic on the ant larvae.

#### ***Pheidole absurda* Forel**

Emery (1904) discussed mermithergates of this species and inferred that the nematode larvae were parasitic in the ant larvae. (Referred to by Wheeler, 1907 and 1928a, p. 204 (= 1926, p. 248).)

#### ***Pheidole ceres* Wheeler**

Wheeler (1907, p. 14) recorded *Orasema wheeleri* Ashmead from the nest of this ant; presumably the eucharid larva had been parasitic on an ant larva.

#### ***Pheidole fabricator* (F. Smith)**

Eidman, 1936: "Die jungen Larven sind dicht behaart mit gegabelten