

STUDIES OF NEW MEXICO ANTS. IX.
POGONOMYRMEX APACHE WHEELER A
 SYNONYM OF *POGONOMYREX SANCTI-
 HYACINTHI* WHEELER
 (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)¹

A. C. COLE

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee

Wheeler (1902, p. 388) described a new species of *Pogonomyrmex* for which he chose the name *sancti-hyacinthi* for no better reason than that the collection was made on the anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto. Wheeler took his types near San Pedro Springs, San Antonio, Texas from nests marked by "small, flat dirt-cones." The colonies, all of which were small, occupied chapparal and mesquite thickets. Only workers were collected.

In his description Wheeler (1902, p. 389) compared workers of *sancti-hyacinthi* with those of *barbatus* and by doing this he was able to provide an impressive set of differences between the two species. A few of the more pertinent characteristics of *sancti-hyacinthi* presented were namely, the smooth and shining posterior corners of the head, the very deeply incised clypeus, the spineless epinotum (although in some specimens there were short "projections" at the junction of the basal and declivous faces), the low and blunt petiolar node, and the deep ferrugineous color with various parts of the body edged with black.

In his paper which described *sancti-hyacinthi*, Wheeler (1902, p. 392) added a postscript in which he described *Pogonomyrmex apache* as new. The exceptionally brief and inadequate description of *apache* deals exclusively with comparisons of this form with *barbatus*, *californicus*, and *sancti-hyacinthi*. According to Wheeler's description *apache* lacks epinotal spines, and has smooth and shining posterior cranial corners, a blunt and depressed petiolar node, a clear yellow color, and a clypeus without a deep marginal incision. It is obvious that only the last two characteristics could possibly distinguish *apache* from *sancti-hyacinthi*. The types of *apache* came from four nests at Fort Davis, Texas. The colonies were not populous and the nests did not differ significantly from those of *sancti-hyacinthi*. Furthermore, Wheeler found *sancti-hyacinthi* to be common at Ft. Davis where it constructed obscure nests in gravelly soil. Olsen (1934, p. 500) reported a collection by Wheeler of *apache* from North Miller Canyon, Huachuca Mountains, Arizona. No additional records appear to have been published since that time.

Olsen (1934, pp. 500, 509) who monographed *Pogonomyrmex* and

¹Contribution No. 82, Department of Zoology and Entomology, The University of Tennessee. These studies have been supported in part by grants from the Penrose Fund of the American Philosophical Society.