

description appears to the writer to be utterly impossible. Nor do I believe that a comparison of Emery's type with material now present in American collections would necessarily be conclusive. Since the Vera Cruz specimens are specifically different from those which occur in southern Arizona, there is good reason to suppose that the Michoacan type is also different. In all likelihood, therefore, a comparison of Emery's type with females taken in southern Arizona would merely substitute a new problem for an old one. For, unless the two proved identical, we would still have no idea as to the characteristics of the major of *cerberulus*. In all probability the nature of Emery's *cerberulus* will remain enigmatical until extensive collections of arboreal ants can be made in Vera Cruz and Michoacan. When complete colonies of *Colobopsis* can be taken in these states and compared with Emery's type the primary difficulty in the *cerberulus* problem may be overcome.

But we cannot wait until this is done to deal with a secondary difficulty which has resulted from Wheeler's unfortunate association. Since the Vera Cruz majors are specifically different from specimens coming from southern Arizona, the least that can be done is to provide a new name for one or the other of these insects, in order that the two species can be handled without violating nomenclatorial rules. I am convinced that it is best to treat the Arizona material as a new species for the following reasons:

- (1). If only one new name is proposed the remaining species will have to be considered as *cerberulus* until this can be definitely authenticated or certainly disproved.

- (2). From the standpoint of proximity it is much more likely that the Vera Cruz majors should be the same as the type of *cerberulus*. Southern Arizona lies seven hundred miles to the north of Vera Cruz and Michoacan. But the two states themselves are separated by less than two hundred miles and they lie in approximately the same latitudes.

- (3). Any additional description in the case of the *cerberulus* complex should deal with adequate material about which there must be no occasion for speculative association. The Arizona material fully meets this condition. The Vera Cruz majors obviously do not. In connection