

areas are smooth and shining regardless of the angle of illumination. It is certain that Wheeler was unaware of this situation, and it is equally certain that the sculptural distinctions which he gave for *cubanus* and *floridanus* are without separatory significance. I have been able to examine specimens of each of these forms, and in each the sculpture of the thorax is essentially like that of *nodosus*. The examination of *cubanus* was made on six workers from the type nest. Contrary to Wheeler's description, the sides of the epinotum and the mesopleurae are not completely opaque and densely reticulate. Sculpture is present but in addition there are strongly shining, sculpture-free areas as well. This is also true of specimens of *floridanus* taken by T. C. Schneirla at Lake Placid, Florida, yet Wheeler stated that the sides of the epinotum and the mesopleurae are finely reticulate and less shining than the pronotum in *floridanus*. Since these forms cannot be separated on the basis of thoracic sculpture, there is nothing but a color difference to distinguish them. It may be added that this is also true in the case of *lucayanus*, for this form was admittedly nothing more than a color variety of *floridanus* from the start. I have shown elsewhere (1950, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Harvard College, vol. 104, p. 225) that *rufescens* also falls into this category. It may be added that even these color distinctions are suspect. When Wheeler compared the types of *cubanus* with that of *floridanus*, he noted a striking difference in the color of the two. But he was comparing specimens taken by the writer three years earlier with a cotype which had been drying out for 36 years. The six specimens from the type series of *cubanus* in the writer's collection have, in the interval between 1931 and the present, faded to a color which is so nearly that of *floridanus* that no color distinction would be possible. The writer has no hesitation in proposing to treat *cubanus*, *lucayanus*, and *rufescens* as synonyms of *floridanus*. It is probable that some synonymization will also be necessary in the case of the southern subspecies of *stolli* which Wheeler described. At present, however, there seems to be no way in which these forms can be evaluated.