

to the process it is possible to follow the passages to their ends. There are usually not more than three or four of them and the length of any passage seldom exceeds five inches. The soil brought to the surface by the ants is usually very fine and the crater formed from it is easily dispersed by rain or wind, hence many nests are without a crater much of the time. Most of the craters measured by the writer were $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches or less in diameter. There are seldom more than 75 workers in a nest. The average number seems to be about 50. The workers store both seeds and the remains of other insects, especially other ants. In view of the lack of pugnacity of our species of *Ephebomyrmex* it seems safe to assume that such stores of insect remains are secured by scavenging rather than by attacks on living victims. Seeds are stored unhulled and several sorts are accepted. One colony kept in an artificial nest preferred white clover seed to grass seed. The slow hulling of the seeds prevents the formation of a chaff pile for the hulls, which are discarded outside the nest entrance, are dispersed before they can accumulate into a chaff pile.

As Wheeler noted, it is unusually difficult to secure sexual forms. Since he observed a marriage flight of *imberbicus* near Deming, New Mexico, on July 12th (13), and since the writer secured a colony of *imberbicus* containing callow males and females in the Davis Mountains of Texas on May 25th, it might be expected that alates would ordinarily be present in the nests of this species during the month of June. Actually this is seldom the case and as *imberbicus*, like many xerophilous ants in the southwest, apparently holds its marriage flight shortly after the onset of the summer rains in early July, the absence of alates in many nests during the month of June may mean that *imberbicus* produces sexual brood only in especially favorable years. The pupal males and females show a surprising capacity for moving their appendages prior to transformation. The workers fail to remove all of the pupal exuviae from the alates when the latter transform, and the patches of pupal casing