

**Metapone johni** Karawajew

Karawajew, Konowia, 1933, 12 (1-2), p. 115, ♀, ♀, ♂.

Type locality: Hantana, Ceylon, 3000-4000' (O. John)

**Metapone gracilis** Wheeler

Wheeler, Psyche, 1935, 42, p. 38, ♀.

Type locality: Dapitan, Mindanao Island, Philippines (C. F. Baker)

**Metapone krombeini** M. R. Smith

M. R. Smith, Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., 1947, 49, p. 76, ♀.

Type locality: K. B. Mission, Milne Bay, New Guinea (K. V. Krombein)

**Metapone tricolor** McAreavey

McAreavey, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, 1949, 74, p. 4, ♀.

Type locality: Nyngan, New South Wales (J. W. T. Armstrong)

**Metapone truki** M. R. Smith

M. R. Smith, Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 1953, 61, p. 135, ♀.

Type locality: Truk Island; North Basin of Mount Chukumong, Moen (R. W. L. Potts)

**Metapone madagascarica** sp. nov.

Type locality: Tulear, Madagascar (H. Kirby)

**Metapone emersoni** sp. nov.

Type locality: Perinet, Madagascar (H. Kirby)

At the present time, 15 species of *Metapone* have been described, and until the publication of this report, they have all come from the Indo-Australian portion of the globe. Four are known in Australia, 2 in the Philippines, 2 in Ceylon, and 1 each on Borneo, Sumatra, Formosa, New Guinea, and Truk (in the Caroline Islands). The 2 new species herein described from Madagascar extend the known distribution of the group far to the west of its previously understood limits. It is tempting to suppose that the genus may yet be found on the continent of Africa or southeastern Asia, but the fact of its proximity to these places does not justify such a prediction. The present range is very wide, but it is characteristically disjunctive, sporadic, and decidedly insular, with the exception of the Australian species which are the only ones found in a continental area. Coupled with these facts is the extreme rarity of both species and individuals, and the primitiveness of the genus. It has certain specialized features which seem to be correlated with life possibly in termite nests, but the general morphology places *Metapone* among the primitive myrmecines so far as our knowledge now permits. It seems safe to conclude that these ants form a relict group which may have been at one time much more extensively distributed, including continental areas of