

rugose-postpetiolate form of *M. mandibularis*, may copy that species in grading into a related smooth-discal form (*M. michaelsoni*) apparently occurring over much the same range geographically. The present series, however, while showing some slight sculptural variation, do not suggest that the intergradation completely bridges the difference, and we must ask that more material be studied before judgement on this question can be made final. To date, I have seen only a few specimens referable to *M. rugosa*: WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Ludlow (two cotype workers in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, by present fixation) (J. Clark). Perth (Clark). Calgardup; Yallingup (Coll. Western Australian Museum).

MYRMECIA PILOSULA Fred. Smith

Ponera ruginoda Fred. Smith, 1858, Cat. Hym. Brit. Mus. **6**: 93, male. NEW SYNONYMY.

Myrmecia pilosula Fred. Smith, 1858, *Ibid.*, p. 146, worker, female, male. Crawley, 1926, pp. 383-385, fig. 9.

Ectatomma ruginodum Roger, 1861, Berl. Ent. Zeitschr. **5**: 168.

Rhytidoponera (s. str.) *ruginoda* Emery, 1911, Gen. Ins. **118**: 38.

Ponera ruginoda Clark, 1936, Mem. Nat. Mus., Melbourne, **8**: 14 (excluded from *Rhytidoponera*).

The type of *Ponera ruginoda*, a perennial puzzler, was examined in the British Museum. It proved to be a male of the common "black jumper" of southeastern and southwestern Australia; direct comparison with the male among the *M. pilosula* types certifies this identification.

M. pilosula, like other "jumpers," is normally a diurnal forager. It is an especially common ant in the southeastern part of Australia and Tasmania, where populations may become very dense in the higher mountains. Among a great many locality records for series examined, I may note as of more than usual interest the dense populations inhabiting the ravines at the western end of Kangaroo Island, South Australia, and a more dilute population sampled on the sandhills along the coast at Esperance, Western Australia (Brown). Like many another ant species in southern Australia, the range appears to be that of a relict clinging to widely separated favorable (relatively moist) areas with broad stretches of arid land intervening.