

The characters cited by Forel for the separation of *M. rowlandi* and *M. tarsata malandensis* are either inconsequential, such as the depth of coloration and pubescence of the gastric apex, or are the distinctions to be expected between normally allometric *Myrmecia* workers of different sizes. It is perhaps significant that Clark assigned all material from the Cairns-Atherton Tableland area to *M. rowlandi*, and did not mention having seen specimens referable to *malandensis*. Specimens in the Museum of Comparative Zoology determined as *malandensis* by Wheeler either fit the characterization of *rowlandi* or are close to and intergradient with these.

I agree with Clark in separating this form from *M. tarsata* Fred. Smith. A live worker was seen at Kuranda in northern Queensland in deep rainforest, being borne along in an enfeebled condition by several workers of *Oecophylla virescens* Fabricius, the common green tree ant of coastal tropical Australia. The *Oecophylla* has apparently increased in the Kuranda area in recent years, according to local inhabitants, and this increase may well account for the present rarity of *Myrmecia* species in rain- and gallery-forest patches near the village.

MYRMECIA MJÖBERGI Forel

This very distinct, slender, long-headed species apparently also suffers from the invasion of *Oecophylla*, since it is found in its usual rainforest haunts only when these are free of the tree-ants. I found *M. mjöbergi* 12 to 20 miles north of Kuranda, along the Black Mountain timber track on the west side of the MacAlister Range in exceptionally fine rainforest. It nests high in the tops of trees in the "peat" gathered by epiphyte masses, including various ferns, orchids and the like; it is not restricted to any one plant group for this purpose. The colonies appear to be populous, and are greatly respected by the timber-cutters, who find them in most suitable epiphytic masses in the trees they cut down. As one might predict from the dull reddish-brown coloration of head and alitrunk, this species is a nocturnal-crepuscular forager (at least as observed at intact nests in recently-felled trees), but it will defend its nest quite aggressively if the mass is strongly disturbed in bright sunlight, occasionally taking short jumps toward the source of disturbance. For this reason, many of the bushmen know the ants as "jumpers", though the habit is certainly not very conspicuous or striking in this species. New northern records are from central Cape York: Lankelly Creek and the Rocky Scrub, Coen District (P. J. Darlington).