

Megalong Valley (black, tricolor, red) (P. J. Darlington). Blue Mountains (tricolor) (H. J. Carter). Jenolan Caves (tricolor, red) (J. C. Wiburd). Leura; Katoomba (tricolor, red); Otford; La Perouse; Heathcote; Manly (red) (W. M. Mann). The Creel, Mt. Kosciusko, 3000 feet (red) (W. M. Wheeler).

VICTORIA: Arthur's Seat near McCrae, 900 feet; Dandenong Creek at Vermont; Burwood (red) (W. L. Brown). Eltham (red) (F. E. Wilson). Dee Creek, Warburton Range (red) (W. M. Wheeler). The specimens from western Victoria and southern South Australia include all color phases, black being predominant in the Grampians Range, at least in the higher parts, according to series examined in several Australian collections and in the British Museum, and to the records given by Emery and Clark (see Clark, 1952, pp. 36, 45).

My observations on this species, made on the red phase in the vicinity of Melbourne, indicate that it is predominantly a crepuscular-nocturnal forager but that it may forage in the early morning or late afternoon during cool weather. The close resemblance of the red phase to *M. forficata* may indicate that mimicry is operating; *M. simillima* is the less common where the two occur together. The nest is made in the earth, with or without a small mound. Near Melbourne, the nests are not very populous; I once found a half-dozen ergatoid females and two large workers with a small amount of brood in a two-chambered cavity reached by a hole beneath a rusted bit of tin lying on the ground (September, 1952, at Burwood, Victoria). The ergatoid females from this group foraged freely for several days before I finally traced one of them back to the entrance. I cannot satisfactorily explain this aggregation; it may have represented part of a disrupted nest remaining from the previous year. In various parts of New South Wales where *M. tarsata* is abundant, the black phase of *simillima* closely resembles it. *M. tarsata* is distinct, however, in possessing a bluish metallescence over the jet-black body and in having the gastric apex yellowish. The species described by Clark as *M. simillima* is actually *M. pyriformis*, following an old confusion of the two that could have been avoided through attention to Crawley's paper (*op. cit.*).

MYRMECIA VARIANS Mayr

Myrmecia varians Mayr, 1876, Jour. Mus. Godeffroy **12**: 94, worker.

Promyrmecia wilsoni Clark, 1943, Mem. Nat. Mus., Melbourne, **13**: 127, pl. 15, fig. 69, worker. NEW SYNONYMY.