

In my own collecting in the region around Melbourne and various other localities from which Clark records these forms, I have found the light-colored variants, but I have been unable to establish any constant differences in petiolar form; the variation in petiolar shape is slight but distinct within each nest series, and appears to be at least partly an allometric feature, but each series seems to vary in just about the same way. The color difference is not so extreme when one takes into account the possibility that certain broods may not have attained full adult color in some cases; intranidal color variation is often considerable at midsummer and perhaps other periods of the year. I believe that these forms will have to be considered as straight *forcicata* until proof is forthcoming that they are anything else.

As mentioned above; *forcicata* (and also *regularis*) is primarily a nocturnal forager. Workers may leave the nest some time before dusk and remain out after sunrise, and occasionally one may see them out on dark, rainy or cool days, but all of my numerous observations indicate strongly that the greatest force of workers is outside the nest during the hours of total darkness when the weather is warm enough. On warm summer nights, I have found that the forests where they occur may be swarming with them, far more workers being visible under a hand electric torch than are ever seen abroad during daylight. I find that this fact is well known to people who have slept out often in the bush, but it has been little appreciated by previous writers on *Myrmecia*, who either, like Clark, maintain flatly that all *Myrmecia* are daylight foragers, or else state the facts in an ambiguous and perfunctory way.

I have noted wherever possible the foraging activities of *Myrmecia* with respect to diurnation, and I believe that I can state with confidence that many species are strictly diurnal foragers, some, like *M. desertorum*, normally completely nocturnal, and a large number either predominantly nocturnal or predominantly crepuscular. Furthermore, there seems to be a more or less definite correlation between the worker color pattern and diurnation: those species having (a) black coloration with prominent yellow mandibles, antennae and fore tarsi; (b) bold patterning of red and black; or (c) conspicuous golden or orange pubescence on the gaster, sometimes in combination with (a) or (b) patterns, are predominantly or entirely diurnal foragers, so far as I have seen. Examples in which I have been able to observe diurnal foraging at or near midday in bright, warm weather include: *auriventris*, *pilosula*, *piliventris*, *mandibularis*, *gulosa*, *nigriscapa*,