

Dr. Smith is fortified in his opinion that *rugiventris* belongs to *Tetramorium* by the presence in his species of raised cariniform lateral wings of the clypeus that border the antennal fossae in front, as in *Tetramorium*; but this character is shown with varying degrees of clearness in other, undoubted *Myrmica* species, both in North America and in southern Asia, so that it cannot be used as a point of separation between the two genera. The question comes to mind, of course, as to whether *Myrmica* and *Tetramorium* really are separate genera after all, and this is precisely the kind of question that most needs asking in ant taxonomy these days. In deciding this particular question, further study must be made of the males, since tetramoriine males (with the exception of a couple of African forms that require closer study) have several funicular segments fused in such a way as to reduce the number of antennal segments to ten in this sex.

Unfortunately, the males of *rugiventris* remain unknown at present, so that it is not known whether they meet the strong criteria of this caste. From the habitus and lesser details of the worker, however, I consider the relationship with *Myrmica* is close enough to call for a **new combination**: *Myrmica rugiventris*. Whether or not this combination finally proves to be the valid one, it at least helps to establish strong doubts as to the pre-Columbian existence of *Tetramorium* in North America.

In fact, were it not for *Tetramorium lucayanum* Forel and the *Xiphomyrmex spinosus* complex, the New World could be considered free of endemic members of tribe Tetramoriini. With the synonymy of *Lundella* under *Hylomyrma* (Brown, 1953), the New World lost its one endemic tetramoriine genus. *T. lucayanum* presents no special difficulty, because its distribution (Bahamas, Puerto Rico, etc.) is highly suggestive of introduced status. In its morphological characteristics, *lucayanum* seems closest to an African group of species, but the species itself has not been identified with any particular continental African population. However, our knowledge of African *Tetramorium* is in a very imperfect state, and it seems to me likely that *lucayanum* must have come from the Dark Continent, even though it may be rare there. A parallel case involving *Strumigenys rogeri* Emery has turned out to follow exactly this pattern (Brown, 1954).