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Solution to the Problem of *Tetramorium lucayanum* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)

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Of the six species of *Tetramorium* that have been reported as inhabiting the New World, the status and provenience of five have been dealt with in my paper entitled, "Is the ant genus *Tetramorium* native to North America?" (Brown, 1957, Brev. Mus. Comp. Zool. Harvard No. 72). *T. guineense*, *T. similinum*, and *T. pacificum*, as has long been recognized, are tramp species of Old World origin (the first two are almost certainly African), and *T. caespitum* is believed to be a post-Columbian immigrant from Europe. The fifth species, *T. rugiventris*, was eliminated from consideration because it was found to belong, not to *Tetramorium*, but to the Holarctic genus *Myrmica*. Subsequent assignment of *rugiventris* to the weak satellite genus *Paramyrmica* seems to me to have been ill-advised, but in any case the ant is definitely not a *Tetramorium*.

The single American species of *Tetramorium* remaining was *T. lucayanum* Wheeler, originally described from the Bahamas, but since reported from the following countries:

CUBA: Cienfuegos, Guantanamo, Cristo (all W. M. Mann leg.)

PUERTO RICO: Mayagüez (M. R. Smith leg.)

JAMAICA: Kingston (E. A. Chapin leg.), Mill Gully, Green Mts. (? leg.)

VIRGIN ISLANDS: St. Croix (W. F. Buren leg.)

A variety was also described from specimens taken in Dublin greenhouses (see below).

In my 1957 paper (p. 6), I stated my opinion that *T. lucayanum*, despite its wide distribution in the West Indies, must be a post-Columbian immigrant to the New World, and that it most likely came from Africa. Repeated attempts to match its types with Old World *Tetramorium* species represented in