

with the Amblyoponini. It shares more characters with the small "degenerate" members of *Gnamptogenys*, but here again, though less certainly, I feel that the similarities may be convergent ones. The two main characters contributing to this opinion are the forewing venation of the larger *Typhlomyrmex* species (Mf1 arising basad of cu-a) and the shape of the mandible in the larva (inflated basal part, suddenly narrowed to an acute apical blade). Even these characters do not weigh decisively against a possible origin of *Typhlomyrmex* from ectatommine ancestors, and it must be admitted that the convergence hypothesis is to some extent based on subjective impressions that remain to be tested.

### Tribe Typhlomyrmecini

#### Genus *Typhlomyrmex*

*Typhlomyrmex* Mayr, 1862, Verh. zool.-bot. Ges. Wien, 12: 736. Type species: *Typhlomyrmex rogenhoferi* Mayr, 1862, monobasic.

*Typhlomyrmex* Emery, 1911, Gen. Insect., 118: 33-34, characterization and catalog of species.

*Nec Typhlomyrmex* Gistel: J. Betrem and C. Jacot-Guillarmod have called my attention to a generic name *Typhlomyrmex* obscurely published by J. Gistel in his *Mysterien der europäischen Insectenwelt* (1856, cf. p. 447) for a "*Myrmica typhlops* L." This species name is a *nomen nudum* of Lund (not Linnaeus!), published in 1831 in *Ann. Sci. Nat.*, 23: 128. Because it was based on an unavailable species name, and is itself without description, indication or figure, *Typhlomyrmex* Gistel is considered to be a stillborn name (*nomen nudum*), and I am well satisfied to let it subside into permanent nomenclatorial limbo.

Worker: Monophenic ("monomorphic") or feebly polyphenic; size small (full length under 2 mm to slightly over 5 mm); pigment-poor, yellowish to ferruginous in color.

Head parallel-sided, or sides slightly converging anteriorly, occipital margin straight to slightly concave. Eyes reduced to minute vestiges with or without pigment. Clypeus with a broad, convex median part and narrow, concave side pieces, the anterior median border often with a narrow translucent margin, in a minority of cases produced as a variously-shaped small median process. Frontal carinae forming small frontal lobes that lie close together and roof a small basal part of the antennal scape insertion (but not the basal collar of the scape); lobes not or only weakly pinched in behind, and not expanded as in typical members of tribe Ponerini. Between the lobes lies a narrow, often indistinct frontal fossa, and a shallow median furrow may run back from the fossa to the vertex, or even to the occipital margin; it is not usually as distinct as in most Ponerini. Antennae short, with thick scapes that either fail to reach the occipital margin, or else surpass it just barely, when held straight back. Funiculus of 11