

The median carina on the postpetiole is a curious feature; it is symmetrical and does not look like a pathological condition. It is followed by a flat central area, which may even be slightly impressed. It remains to be seen whether the corresponding worker also carries it.

On the head, the longitudinal striation is indistinct except on the cheeks, and dense opaque reticulo-punctulation prevails. Dorsal surface of alitrunk densely punctulate, opaque to subopaque; propodeum mostly smooth and shining; sides of alitrunk weakly shining, pronotal part densely punctulate, remainder finely longitudinally striate, with scattered punctures. Petiole smooth and shining, with sparse punctulation on sides. Gaster smooth and shining, but with dense punctulation. Scapes densely punctulate, subopaque, as are also most of legs; mesal surfaces of femora smooth and shining.

Pubescence short, reclinate or appressed, fairly abundant over most dorsal body surfaces, gaster and appendages; longer fine hairs on clypeus, mandibles, and sparse on gaster above and below (abundant at gastric apex). Short oblique hairs extend beyond pubescence on scapes, funiculi and legs.

Color light ferruginous, legs lighter and more yellowish; head infuscated around ocelli.

Holotype (and only known specimen) from the vicinity of San José, Costa Rica, in 1940 (H. Schmidt leg.). Deposited in the collection of W. W. Kempf, São Paulo, Brazil.

*Typhlomyrmex pusillus* (Figures 1, 2)

*Typhlomyrmex pusillus* Emery, 1894, Bull. Soc. ent. Ital., 26: 141, pl. 1, fig. 2, worker. Type locality: Bolivia.

*Typhlomyrmex schmidti* Menozzi, 1927, Ent. Mitt., 16: 268, female, male. Type locality: vic. San José, Costa Rica. Syntypes in Istituto di Entomologia della Università, Bologna, Italy; 2 alate females examined. New synonymy.

This is the smallest species of the genus. It will probably turn out to be much more common and widespread than it seems at present; its habitat in the soil and its very small size have made it scarce in collections.

Samples that I have referred to this species show so much variation that they may actually represent more than one species. Specimens from the south (northern Argentina, Santa Catarina) and the Colombian Andes (Venecia, near Medellín) average larger and more robust (HW 0.34-0.50 mm) than those from Amazon drainage and the Guianas. Among the smaller forms, most samples (Surinam: Dirkschoop and Maripaheuvel; Brazil: near Belém do Pará; Peru: Finca Santa Beatriz, Chanchamayo) have the petiolar node and