habitat than are those in nests situated in palms or in soil outside the forest.

The queen lays 1-2 eggs per day during her first year, rising to about 2.5 per day after she is more than a year old (the figures in Colombel's English summary, 1970b: 199, are for eggs per 10 days, and so should be divided by 10). The egg takes about 10 days to hatch, and about 40 more days pass to the eclosion of a worker. The workers hunt effectively only after they are about 4 months old.

The queen's eggs are all capable of development; she lays no special trophic eggs, though some of them — sometimes 1 or 2 out of every 3 laid — are eaten by young larvae. The ovipositon rate of the queen is tied to her nutrition, and therefore to the number of foraging workers she depends upon for her food.

Workers of *O. troglodytes* also lay eggs, and those that develop, being unfertilized, produce only males (after some 54-57 days of development). In queenless colonies, many worker-laid eggs are eaten by workers or young larvae; only 1 in 45 to 1 in 5 male eggs reach adulthood.

Queens inhibit egg-laying in workers when the nest space falls below a critical volume, or when the number of workers per queen drops below about 50. These results suggest pheromonal inhibition by the queen, and experiments with currents of air passed over queens, and with queen extracts, demonstrated that partial control (delay) of worker oviposition was indeed mediated by pheromones originating from the queens.

In nature, *Odontomachus* colonies are often rather dispersed, and I would think that queen control of worker oviposition is probably rarely complete, via pheromonal or any other control route.

Nuptial flight. Ledoux (1952) found that virgin queens of *O. assiniensis* in West Africa leave the nest all through the year, but mostly during the rainy season. Flights do not seem to occur en masse, but by the young queens slipping out one or a few at a time during the evening. They are not as strongly attracted to light as are the males of many species. When a nest is opened containing unmated males, one has to be quick to catch those that have reached full adulthood, because they are quick to escape by flight. Although males of different species of *Odontomachus* and *Anochetus* are commonly taken at light, other