Galapagos, and *O. simillimus* is on isolated Christmas Island, in the Indian Ocean south of Java. Undoubtedly, many of the island records represent accidental introductions by man, but the ability of conspicuous, stinging ponerines to spread so far and wide through human commerce or any other means must be regarded as exceptional, and indicative of the general-adaptive nature of the Odontomachiti as a taxon.

Most *Odontomachus* species are found in higher-rainfall areas; *O. bauri* in South America, and *O. clarus* in North America, also extend into semidesert regions; in fact, *O. clarus* is found mainly in such dry areas in Mexico and southwestern U.S. In Australia, *O. ruficeps* also ranges into arid districts in many parts of that country. *Anochetus* has species in habitats ranging from wet to dry, but the real dry-country species are all in the Old World, and even there they are not extreme xerophiles. Judging from the locality records and my own experience, I would say that arid-country *Anochetus* all or mostly are found in xeric scrub, dry open forest or grassland, particularly in microhabitats at least partly in the shade of shrubs or trees.

I conclude from the overall distribution of Odontomachiti that both genera evolved from the tropical forest habitat, and that tropical forest is still their main theater of evolution.

The Odontomachiti completely lack representation in the fossil record. They may well not have been present in the Baltic Amber forests or mid-Tertiary western North America, from which we have extensive ant remains in amber and shales of lacustrine origin, respectively. This could mean that the taxon had not yet evolved, or that it had not yet radiated and spread far from its tropical place of origin, or simply that these ecological zones were not suitable for odontomachites. Absence of Odontomachiti from tropical ant-rich formations, such as the Sicilian, Dominican or Chiapan ambers, all mid-Tertiary in origin, is harder to explain, although relatively large ants such as *Odontomachus* do seem to get caught and preserved in resin drops less frequently than some smaller-sized genera.

We are left without a solid clue to tell whether the odontomachites had their origin in the Old World or the New. *Odontomachus* is only slightly better represented in the Old World than in the New as regards both numbers of species and species-groups, but the New World representation appears unbalanced in that the *haematodus* group includes most of the species there. In *Anochetus*, the Old World complement seems to include more