

Discussion of the phylogeny of *Anochetus* species-groups is reserved for the treatment of that genus to be presented in Part VIB of the reclassification.

*Odontomachus* and *Anochetus*, though obviously closely related, have been separated for more than a century, and during this time, *Stenomyrmex* has been distinguished either as a genus or as a subgenus of *Anochetus*. Emery (1892: 558) raised *Champsomyrmex* for the aberrant species *Odontomachus coque-reli*, which fits *Odontomachus* in some characteres and *Anochetus* (*Stenomyrmex*) in others. Several years ago, after attempting to use the traditional (Emery, 1911: 107-112) diagnostic characters, I decided that all of these groups intergraded broadly, and that they should be included as synonyms within a broadened *Odontomachus* (Brown, 1973: 178 ff.). The MCZ ant collection was rearranged accordingly, and countless specimens were distributed to other collections with determination labels as «*Odontomachus*» replacing the generic name «*Anochetus*» wherever it would previously have been used. But now, at a late stage of manuscript preparation, I suddenly have found a very distinct and unequivocal character that will distinguish *Odontomachus* from *Anochetus* at a glance. By its use, *Champsomyrmex* falls into *Odontomachus* as a synonym, and *Stenomyrmex* into *Anochetus*. But before we discuss this new character, let us review the traditional ones.

It seems clear that species have been placed in either *Odontomachus* or *Anochetus* on three main characters of the workers and queens.

1) Size: larger species are usually *Odontomachus*, smaller ones *Anochetus*. 2) Shape of petiolar node: *Odontomachus* species usually have a more or less conical node with an acute or spiniform summit, while *Anochetus* has a rounded, transverse or bidentate nodal summit. 3) Antennal fossae: *Odontomachus* has distinct fossae, bordered by swellings and confluent on the midline of the vertex (see fig. 2), whereas in *Anochetus*, the fossae are absent, or at least not confluent. Taking the world fauna, most species can be placed in either genus on all three criteria. There remains a residue of species in which these characters occur discordantly. Let us take each criterion in its turn.

1) Size. The species of all groups can be placed on a single size gradient, along which they overlap broadly. *Stenomyrmex* alone includes species such as *horridus*, well down in the *Anochetus* size range, and