

In his original description of *O. latissimus*, Viehmeyer (1913) writes, «Pronotum mit konzentrischen, hinten sehr s[e]ichten, geschlossenen, ovalen Bogenlinien; die Mitte derselben glänzend glatt». Wilson (1959: 486), in the first lug of his couplet 7, leading to couplet 10 and *latissimus*, wrote: «Most of the pronotum, including all of its dorsal surface exclusive of the anterior «neck», completely lacking striae, its surface either shagreened or smooth and shining». Wilson saw no *latissimus* types, and it seems that he misjudged Viehmeyer's words insofar as the pronotal sculpture is concerned.

In 3 workers from Wamuki, 800 m, Huon Peninsula, NE New Guinea, referred by Wilson (1959: 497) to *O. papuanus*, the heads are broad behind (see Table II) and the striation is almost completely effaced and the surface definitely shining in the posterior center of the pronotal disc.

The type of *O. latissimus* came from Sattelberg, also on the Huon Peninsula, and Viehmeyer's sketch of the head agrees well with the Wamuki specimens. Also, the profile of the long anterodorsal face of the petiolar node is almost perfectly straight (very feebly concave) in the Wamuki workers, matching well with the original description. Although *O. latissimus* could be a morph or local variant of *O. papuanus*, as Wilson evidently regarded the Wamuki sample, I am inclined to treat it as a separate species on the scanty evidence available.

[6] Gathered in *O. assiniensis* are a number of variants, mostly color forms, that do not seem to me to deserve formal taxonomic status. The type of *assiniensis* (MCSN-Genoa) is a larger worker with light red head, the reddish extending back somewhat into the brown trunk. The type locality is «Assinie», Côte d'Ivoire, a coastal village and area near the Côte d'Ivoire-Ghana border on the coast. The red head and yellow legs are characteristic of forest zone specimens from Ghana, according to B. Bolton (in. litt.), and the type of subspecies *flavescens*, from the Nimba Mountains of Côte d'Ivoire (MNHN-Paris) belongs to this same form.

Samples from both forest and drier areas, on the coast as well as inland in West Africa, have the head brown or dark brown like the rest of the body, but often retain the yellow legs. In Zaïre, variants with part or all of the trunk pale brown in color, contrasting with dark brown head and gaster, correspond to the types of subsp. *fauconneti* and var. *furvior*. More uniform dark brown specimens, usually with brown legs, come from