

from the mainland of New Guinea, there is not much more to be said about these 4 species except that their limits and variation remain unclear.

[19] *O. laticeps* is a most interesting species inhabiting Central America and Mexico, where it is found mostly in forested areas. Records assigned to it from South America actually belong for the most part to the new species *O. biumbonatus* [8].

*O. laticeps* comes in two extreme forms, one of which has head, trunk, petiole and appendages dull, light red in color, while the gaster is usually brownish or blackish, with strong bluish reflections, and the first two gastric terga are completely, distinctly, finely and opaquely longitudinally striate over their discal surfaces; this form corresponds to the type of *O. striativentris*. Most such samples come from the lowland forests on the Atlantic side of Costa Rica. The other extreme is a form with dark reddish brown to piceous forebody and black gaster, the first two terga smooth and shining discad, with scattered fine punctures. This form ranges from upland Costa Rica (and doubtless the mountains of Panama) north in tropical Mexico to southern Tamaulipas; Roger's type of «var. *latidens*» (of *haematodus*), from Cordoba, Veracruz, can be assigned here with confidence.

The two extreme forms are connected by a series of samples from localities spread from Panama to southern Mexico, showing different combinations and degrees of development of the color and sculptural characters. Here are a few examples:

Barro Colorado Island, Panama Canal Zone (R. W. and W. Taylor); a series of workers found foraging in one restricted area in the forest has the gastric dorsum smooth and shining, but with diffuse fine longitudinal striation on posterior half of first tergum. In color, this sample is dark brown, with dark reddish brown trunk, black gaster and light castaneous legs.

Costa Rica, Osa Peninsula: 5 km west of Rincon de Osa, 50 m (J. Wagner and J. Kethley), a very dark worker, almost black, with dark brown legs, first 2 gastric terga finely but distinctly striate throughout.

Central Meseta of Costa Rica: San José, Cartago, and Agua Caliente (W. M. Wheeler): these samples, while predominantly of the dark, smooth extreme, contain scattered workers having faint, fine striation in the middle of the first tergum, mostly near its posterior border. The elevation of the Meseta is over 1000 m.