

[28] Through the kindness of Dr. P. Oosterbroek (ITZ-Amsterdam), I have been able to examine 3 syntypes of Emery's *O. imperator* subsp. *rufithorax*: a worker from Timena, New Guinea (now West Irian), and 2 from Tawarin in the same country. The Timena example bears Emery's determination label, and is here designated as lectotype of *O. rufithorax*. These specimens are in my opinion conspecific with the species later described by Mann as *O. emeryi* and Wilson as *O. gressitti*. In Wilson's (1959: 486) key, *rufithorax*, at couplet 11, follows from the first lug of couplet 7: «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». Emery's description of *rufithorax*, however, reads, «le corselet et le petiole sont striés fortement en travers», which agrees perfectly with his types before me.

The *rufithorax* types have the extraocular furrows striate, the striae extending slightly onto the temporal ridges. The head and gaster are dark brown, and the trunk and petiole are dull, fairly light reddish, with legs a trifle lighter. In the type series of *O. emeryi*, all from the Solomons, the sample from Fulakora (Ysabel) has the extraocular furrows distinctly and usually completely striate, but in the sample from Maliali (Florida) the striae vary from indistinct to obsolete in this furrow. In large and small workers and an alate queen from Kokure, 690 m, southern Bougainville (E. J. Ford, Jr., 1956), the extraocular furrows are completely smooth and shining. Mann cited differences between his *emeryi* and *rufithorax* in the depth of the red of the trunk, and in the sculpture of the head, but since Mann never saw Emery's types, at least the sculptural differences were never specified. Actually, the differences in depth of color between Mann's types and the *rufithorax* types are relatively slight, the more distinctly darkened mesonotum against a lighter general truncal color being the most noticeable trait in most Solomons samples. But this is a variable character, and even the *rufithorax* types have the mesonotum faintly darker than adjoining parts of the trunk.

Wilson described *O. gressitti* from 2 specimens: the holotype, from Nondugl, 1750 m, Ahl Valley, NE New Guinea; and a paratype from 1100 m on Guadalcanal. The paratype (MCZ) is a small specimen of *O. saevissimus* as here conceived. The holotype is said by Wilson to «most closely» resemble *O. papuanus*. He writes that, «It bears a superficial resemblance to