

*Pheidole vafra idiota*

*Pheidole idiota* Santschi, 1923a:53, soldier ♀♀. Type loc.: Argentina, Córdoba: Alta Gracia.

*Pheidole vafra idiota* var. *maculifrons* Santschi, 1929b:284, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Argentina, Córdoba: Alta Gracia. *N. syn.* Not *P. maculifrons* Wheeler, 1928.

The types of *idiota* and its sympatric variety were compared in the Santschi Collection in Basel, and are judged to be conspecific; the fuscous spot in the middle of the head varies from present to absent even in these small series.

*Pheidole subarmata*

*Pheidole subarmata* Mayr, 1883:37, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Cayenne.

*Pheidole cornuta* Emery, 1890a:52, nota, soldier. Type loc.: Paraguay: Asunción. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole subarmata* var. *elongatula* Forel, 1893a:408, soldier ♀♀♂. Type loc.: West Indies: St. Vincent. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole cornutula* var. *imbecillis* Emery, 1905b:151, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Argentina: Corrientes. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole subarmata* var. *nassavensis* Wheeler, 1905a:92, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Bahamas, New Providence: Nassau. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole subarmata* var. *borinquenensis* Wheeler, 1908a:133, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Puerto Rico: San Juan. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole* (*Elasmopheidole*) *hondurensis* Mann, 1922:25, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Honduras: San Juan Pueblo. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole subarmata* var. *nefasta* Santschi, 1929b:285, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Brasil, Parana: Rio Negro. *N. syn.*

*Pheidole cornutula* var. *dentimentum* Santschi, 1929b:285, soldier ♀. Type loc.: Brasil, Parana: Rio Negro. *N. syn.*

The core synonymy here is *P. subarmata* (= *cornutula* = *hondurensis*), which E. O. Wilson (pers. commun.) had already noted in the late 1950's after comparing specimens he had collected at Palmar, Dept. Puntarenas, Costa Rica, with neotropical *Pheidole* in the Wheeler Collection (MCZ). While this synonymy seemed reasonable to me after reviewing the material, a complication appeared in the form of mixed species in the *subarmata* lot that Wilson had used for his comparison. Once the MCZ *subarmata* were sorted, it was found that two species were represented; one of these, from the vicinity of Belém, Pará, Brasil, is distinct from *subarmata* in having a shorter, darker, more nearly rectangular head, and other differences. The other is the true *subarmata*.

This species has the soldier head much longer than broad, though the