

the annually-burned savanna (by Lévieux) has failed to turn up any samples of the new species, either as colonies or as single foraging workers. *Apomyrma* and the 5 or 6 *Amblyopone* species also found here constitute a remarkable and unexpected cryptic soil faunule, some members, perhaps all, of which belong to a centipede-feeding guild. This assemblage was revealed only by systematic large scale excavation and sifting of the soil in the course of intensive studies of savanna ant ecology conducted since 1962 at Lamto.

Like the *Amblyopone* species at Lamto, *Apomyrma stygia* is probably best considered as an invader of the savanna via the gallery forest from the more extensive rain forest belt to the south. So far, excavations like those completed at Lamto have not been made in the rain forest proper, and have been made only to a limited extent in gallery forest. *Apomyrma*, like many of the other subterranean predatory ponerines, moves deep (30 cm or more) into the soil during the dry season (October to April), but during the rainy season it comes up to within 10 cm of the surface.

The 4 nests of *A. stygia* were all found during April-June 1968. Nos. AA 315 N₁ and AA 318 N₁ (both May 1968) were taken in sandy alluvial soil of the gallery forest of the Bandama River. The soil surface in each case, while tree-shaded, was bare of herbage. AA 315 N₁, a nest of nest fragment of the large form consisting of 12 workers and a single dealate queen, was taken about 10 cm deep, and was found in the same meter quadrat as *Amblyopone* sp. near *normandi*. AA 318 N₁, 15 workers and a dealate queen, was found about 15 cm beneath the surface and in the same meter quadrat as a colony of *Amblyopone mutica*.

The type nest (without code number) was taken 17 June 1968; it and AA 285 N₈ came from unburned savanna with dark clayey "terre noire" soil bearing a cover of the grass *Loudetia simplex* growing about 1 m high. The nest contained about 75 workers, 6 alate and 15 dealate queens, 2 ergatoids, and a few pupae and pharate adults of queens, males and workers, plus a few larvae of different sizes.

The type nest was 15-20 cm in diameter and 2 cm high, containing the brood, most of the adults, and cut-up remains of a geophilomorph

Figures 13-17, *Apomyrma stygia* sp. n., small form, antenna and mouth-parts of worker. Fig. 13, antenna. Fig. 14, labrum, external view. Fig. 15, right mandible, dorsal view. Fig. 16, left maxilla, external view; the maxillary comb has been drawn as seen through the transparent galea. Fig. 17, labium with left labial palpus, lateral view.