The significance of the disjunct biogeographical distribution of this genus is an open question. Have a few species dispersed to Madagascar from Africa and then secondarily radiated in a land devoid of driver ants and other competitors? Or, is *Terataner* a relict genus that was once widespread and is now restricted to a portion of the Ethiopian and Malagasy regions? It will be interesting to discover whether the Transvaal and East African *Terataner* have ergatoid queens similar to Malagasy species, or normal queens similar to those in West Africa. Many more species of *Terataner* may be discovered when Madagascar is studied further. The ant biodiversity of this region of the world is far greater than expected based upon the number of described taxa (P. Ward, pers. comm.). If conservation efforts are successful, further research may answer some of these unresolved questions.

Summary

Terataner species in Madagascar are very different from those in West Africa. West African *Terataner* are arboreal and have normal, alate queens. In Madagascar, colonies nest in plant cavities near the ground, and reproduction is by means of ergatoid queens that are very similar to workers. Workers forage for live insect prey, and often group raid the nests of ants and termites. Males are morphologically unusual and are rare. This is the first report of ergatoid queens in the genus *Terataner*.

Acknowledgements

I thank Michael Kelley for the map, Kathy Brown-Wing for her scientific illustrations, and Stefan Cover and Jim Wetterer for their critical review of this manuscript. Ani Patel, Emile Rajeriarison, Pascal Rabeson, Samuel Rafanomezantsoa and Abner Kingman, Jr. assisted in locating ant colonies in Madagascar. This work was supported by the Archos Entomological Fund at Harvard University.