

extends from Oregon and Idaho to southern California; the species very probably will be found in northern Baja California, Mexico.

Because the mandibles are rather sparsely punctate in the major workers of *C. essigi* this species can be confused with *C. hyatti*, but even in the largest majors, the punctures are mostly separated by less than a puncture diameter. The interspaces may be smooth or lightly roughened. The most conspicuous difference, however, is the presence of a distinct metanotal impression in *C. hyatti* (Fig. 27) so that the basal face of the propodeum is convex; *C. essigi* lacks a distinct metanotal impression and the base of the propodeum is flat or slightly concave (Fig. 26).

This species is highly variable in color. Samples from northern localities or those at high elevations may be largely or entirely black. Most commonly, the head and gaster are dark and the mesosoma reddish. Most samples from southern California are largely yellowish red with only the two or three apical gastral segments blackish or brownish.

Habitats for *C. essigi* range from chaparral and oak woodlands to pine-fir forest. Although primarily associated with oaks (both in dead branches and cynipid galls), *C. essigi* has also been found nesting in pine, cottonwood, cedar, and manzanita. Shields (1973) reported this species (as *C. nearcticus*) tending larvae of the lycaenid *Philotes rita pallescens* on *Eriogonum kearneyi* var. *kearneyi* in Nevada.

*Camponotus (Myrmentoma) hyatti* Emery

Figures 6, 19, 28

*Camponotus hyatti* Emery, 1893:680, figs.25, 26; W. Wheeler, 1910:345; W.

*Camponotus sayi* var. *bicolor* Pergande, 1894:161; W M. Preoccupied. NEW SYNONYMY.

*Camponotus sayi* var. *californicus* Emery, 1925:118. New name for *C. sayi bicolor* Pergande. NEW SYNONYMY.

*Camponotus (Myrmentoma) hyatti* Emery: Creighton, 1950:384, 387. Wheeler and Wheeler, 1986:61.

This is an exclusively western species, most abundant in southern California, but ranging north to Oregon and Idaho, east to southern Arizona (Santa Rita and Chiricahua Mountains), and south through Lower California to the Sierra de la Laguna in Baja California Sur.

For reasons set forth in the discussion of *C. sayi*, I now regard *C. sayi californicus* as a synonym of *C. hyatti* rather than of *C. sayi* as I had earlier (1968) supposed. Together with *C. bakeri* and *C. essigi*, *C. hyatti*