



Fig. 2. *Acropyga* from Saül, French Guiana. An alate gyne carrying a mealybug while in copula.

tains two *Acropyga* gynes with mealybugs and a male ant. This piece is approximately contemporaneous with the other Dominican amber pieces. Roy Larimer provided the fifth amber piece, which contains workers of *Azteca alpha* Wilson and mealybugs.

One amber piece from the Dominican Republic (Frankfurt collection) contains a single alate *Acropyga* gyne holding a mealybug between her mandibles and one *Acropyga* male (figs. 5a [detail] and 5b). The genus of the specimen was determined using the original description of Roger (1862). Of the four subgenera of *Acropyga*, only *Rhizomyrma* is recorded from the New World. Forel (1893) established *Rhizomyrma* as a subgenus of *Acropyga*, the characteristics of which are clavate antennae with 7–11 segments, 2-segmented maxillary and 3-segmented labial palpi, long, narrow mandibles with 3–4 teeth on an extremely oblique border, extremely small eyes, no ocelli, and triangular and distinct frontal area. The single female that Forel examined lacked wings and was described merely as workerlike. The male caste was not described.

SPECIMEN DESCRIPTIONS

Frankfurt collection (fig. 5a, b): **Female:** Length nearly 3 mm. Color light, no darker than light brownish-yellow. Eyes normal size, situated very close to base of mandibles. Ocelli close together, situated in small indentation.

Clypeus bearing long hairs (especially on anterior margin); antennae 9-segmented. Pronotum very short; mesonotum much higher than pronotum, nearly flat on top, as long as wide, with rounded corners. Gaster more than 1 mm in length, tapered posteriorad. Wings translucent, with single cubital cell; veins brownish-yellow. **Male:** Length approximately 1.5 mm. Color distinctly darker than that of females, especially head and alitrunk. Head nearly as long as broad; eyes more than half head length, reaching from anterior clypeal margin to occiput. Mandibles long and narrow; antennae 10-segmented; scapes projecting beyond occipital margin. Ocelli protruding considerably. Alitrunk only slightly broader than head width; mesonotum slightly convex, much higher than propodeum; propodeum rounded on top with short part descending perpendicularly. Petiole base in profile broad, tapering to transverse ridge. Wings with single closed cubital cell.

Harvard collection: Specimen AMNH DR-10-228 is a dealate gyne (fig. 5c); her cuticle and that of the scale insect are slightly distorted by compression. Specimen AMNH DR-14-403 (fig. 5d) has an inner droplet of amber at the core, bearing a complete alate gyne that has been perfectly preserved and a mealybug (fig. 6 [detail]) fortuitously dislodged from her mandibles. See appendix 1 for descriptions of mealybugs.

The queens from specimens AMNH DR-10-228 and AMNH DR-14-403 resemble each other strongly with respect to head shape (fig. 5c, d). The head shape, however, is distinctly different from the Frankfurt collection specimen (fig. 5a, b). Whereas the occipital corners of the Frankfurt specimen are rounded and the occiput is nearly straight, the Harvard queens have distinctly pronounced occipital corners and an impressed occiput. Thus, the Frankfurt and Harvard queens represent different species.

AMBER FOSSILS OF AZTECA

Dominican amber piece AMNH DR-14-955 ($2.4 \times 2.8 \times 1.1$ cm) contains 9 workers of *Azteca alpha* Wilson and 20 female/nymphal and 3 male pseudococcids, plus debris and a female cecidomyiid midge (fig. 7). The mealybugs are not the same taxon as those discussed above; in fact, their mor-