

RESULTS OF THE ARMSTRONG COLLEGE EXPEDITION
TO SIWA OASIS (LIBYAN DESERT), 1935

A Second List of the Formicidae

[Hymenoptera]

by HORACE DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.R.E.S., etc.,
Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History).

Since my former paper (*Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, s. II, 9, 26-33, 1942) on the ants of the Siwa Oasis, a second lot of specimens collected by Omer-Cooper has reached me. There are no additional species of ants in this lot; but the female of a *Solenopsis* (No. 15 of the former list) enables this species to be named. It proves to be a new species which I have described below.

The following species comprise the present list (the numbers used are those of the former paper).

3. *Messor barbarus* L. subsp. *aegyptiaca* Emery.
1 ♀, El Arig, 8.VI.35.
5. *Pheidole* (*Pheidole*) *pallidula* Nyl. var. *reticeps* Forel.
1 ♂, Siwa, 12.V.35; 1 ♂, ditto, 29.IV-1.V.35; 1 winged ♀, 27.IV.35;
winged ♀♀, 27-28.IV.35.
7. *Cardiocondyla emeryi* Forel subsp. *mahdii* Karawajew.
♂♂, Siwa, in moth trap, 29.IV., 4.V., 12.V., and 17.V.35; 1 ♀, Zegawa, 13.V.35.
8. *Cardiocondyla nuda* Mayr var. *mauritanica* Forel.
1 ♀, Siwa (gardens), 18-19.IV.35; ♀♀, Zegawa, 1.V., and 12.VI.35.
9. *Crematogaster* (*Acrocoelia*) *auberti* Emery var. *oasium* Santschi.
17 ♀♀, Baharein, 11 and 12.VI.35; El Arig, 8.VI.35; Sitra, 14.VI.35.
10. *Monomorium* (*Xeromyrmex*) *bicolor* Emery.
1 ♀, Zegawa, 18.V.35; 15 ♀♀, Siwa, 27.IV.35.
11. *Monomorium* (*Xeromyrmex*) *salomonis* L.
♂♀, Siwa (gardens), 18-19.IV, and 1.VI.35.

14. *Monomorium (Lampromyrmea) atomus* Forel subsp. *cospeis* Donisthorpe
1 ♀, 3-5.V.35.

15. *Solenopsis cooperi* spec. nov.

♀. — Head, thorax and pedicel light brownish yellow, antennae, legs, and gaster pale yellow, eyes and teeth of mandibles black; whole smooth and shining, furnished with short scattered yellow outstanding hairs.

Head longer than broad, slightly broader anteriorly than posteriorly, posterior angles rounded, posterior border slightly and evenly excised, dorsal surface with some small scattered punctures, and a round shallow fovea or puncture on disc; *mandibles* powerful, faintly longitudinally striate, outer border rounded, inner border straight, masticatory border armed with 3 teeth, two sharp ones at apex, the apical one being the longer, and one blunt tooth at base; dorsal surface of *clypeus* convex, anterior border sinuate on each side, and armed in centre with two small blunt teeth; *frontal carinae* not long, narrow, raised, rather wide apart, and slightly divergent behind; *eyes* large, round, slightly convex, consisting of a number of facets, and situated in front of middle of sides of head; *ocelli* moderate; *antennae* 11-jointed, *scape* curved, not reaching posterior ocelli, *funiculus* with first joint longer than broad, longer than the following seven joints, which are transverse, last two joints large, elongate, forming a two-jointed club, the last joint of which is pointed and longer than the preceding. *Thorax* narrow, considerably longer than broad; *pronotum* transverse, short, furnished with a neck anteriorly; *mesonotum* higher than pronotum, which it slightly overlaps, longer than rest of thorax, narrowed and rounded anteriorly, *scutum* of mesonotum with a few small scattered punctures, slightly convex; *scutellum* round oval, rather flat on disc; *metanotum* narrow, transverse, lower than scutellum and epinotum; *epinotum* sloping, narrowed behind, no marked angle between dorsal surface and declivity. *Petiole* and *post-petiole* with dorsal surfaces subequal, convex, rounded above and at sides; *gaster* long, voluminous, narrowed in front and behind, truncate at base. *Legs* moderate. *Wings* transparent, veins and pterostigma pale yellow, one discoidal and one cubital cell present, radial cell open. *Long.* 4.8 mm.

♂. — Brown, smooth and shining, mandibles, antennae and legs pale yellow. Body furnished with short yellow outstanding hairs. *Head* small, triangular, posterior angles rounded, posterior border truncate; *mandibles* narrow, masticatory border armed with three teeth; *clypeus* convex; *frontal carinae* short, divergent, not close together; *frontal furrow* in the form of a rather deep small fovea; *eyes* kidney-shaped, very large and prominent, situated on front of sides of head; *ocelli* large, situated on top of posterior part of head; *antennae* 12-jointed, *scape* a little longer than first joint of funiculus,

funiculus with first joint globose. *Thorax* narrow, longer than broad, narrowed in front and behind, construction similar to that of ♀. *Petiole* with upper surface slightly excised; *post petiole* broader than petiole, rounded above and at sides; *gaster* short oval, truncate at base; *cerci* present. *Legs* rather long. *Wings* as in ♀. *Long.* 3.3 mm.

Type and ♂ type in British Museum Collection.

Described from 8 winged females and 5 males, taken by J. Omer-Cooper.

Egypt : Siwa, 15 and 24.V.1935.

This is the *Solenopsis* sp. of my former paper, No. 15. Over one hundred and seventy ♂♂ from Egypt (Siwa), 21.VIII.35 (J. Omer-Cooper).

17. *Plagiolepis pallescens* Forel subsp. *maura* Santschi var. *sordida* Santschi.

1 ♀, Siwa (gardens), 18-19.IV.35; 2 ♀♀, 29.IV.-1.V.35, Siwa (in moth trap).

19. *Acantholepis frauenfeldi* Mayr var. *variabilis* Santschi.

1 ♀, Bahrein, 9-10.VI.35.

21. *Camponotus (Tanaemyrmex) maculatus* F. subsp. *aegyptiaca* Emery.

Many ♀♀, 44, winged ♀♀, ♂♂, 22nd, 26th, 27th, 29th.IV.35, Siwa; ditto, Siwa depression, Koreshid, Zeitoun, and Abu Sharuf; 1 ♂, Siwa (in moth trap), 23.V.35.

23. *Camponotus (Orthonotomyrmex) sericeus* F.

Many ♀♀ and 44, Siwa, Siwa depression, Tutuata; Utaba Tarmarabas, 18.IV., 4.V., 13.V., 28.V.35.

24. *Paratrechina (Nylanderia) jaegerskjoeldi* Mayr var. *borcardi* Santschi.

1 ♂, Siwa (in moth trap), 29.IV.-1.V.35; Siwa, 2 winged ♀♀, 11 and 17.VI.35.

26. *Cataglyphis (Cataglyphis) bicolor* F.

Numerous ♀♀, 4 winged ♀♀, 1 ♂, Siwa, Siwa depression, Tutuatee, Bahrein, Koreshid, Zeitoun, and Abu Scharuf, 29.IV., 13 and 18.V., 9-10.VI.35.

27. *Cataglyphis (Machaeromyrma) bombycina* Roger.

12 ♀♀, El Arig, 8.V.35; 84 ♀♀, ditto, 18.VI.35; 2 ♀♀ Gabel Khamissa, 4-6.V.35.