

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

WASHINGTON ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

VOL. II, PP. 519-521.

DECEMBER 20, 1900.

PAPERS FROM THE HARRIMAN ALASKA
EXPEDITION.

XVII.

ENTOMOLOGICAL RESULTS (11):

FORMICIDÆ.

BY THEO. PERGANDE.

THE present paper is based upon a small collection of Alaska Formicidæ, made by Professor Trevor Kincaid while connected with the Harriman Expedition during the summer of 1899, and is especially interesting on account of the close relationship of most of the species to those of our northwestern States.

Subfamily CAMPONOTINI.

Formica neorufibarbis Em.

Formica neorufibarbis Em., Zool. Jahrb. Jena, p. 660, 1899.

The series representing this species are all workers, and were obtained in the following localities: Sitka, 1 specimen; Metlakahtla, 5 specimens; and Kadiak, 34 specimens. Those from the latter locality were found in a rotten log.

The species is quite variable as to coloration; the palest forms, from Metlakahtla, are absolutely identical with those found in Colorado, Dakota, and Oregon, while the darker specimens agree more or less closely with forms occurring in Colorado, Utah, and some of the far northwestern States.

Lasius niger L. subsp., *sitkænsis* subsp. nov.

Worker: Length about 4 mm. Head and abdomen dark brown, the posterior edge of the abdominal segments whitish or more or less

distinctly yellowish or greenish in a certain light, front of head as far as the eyes, the clypeus, cheeks, and under side of the head, sides of the thorax, the antennæ and legs, lighter or darker ferruginous; apex of the joints of the flagellum dark brown; mandibles red, their external edge and the teeth, as well as the eyes, black; palpi yellowish. Appressed pubescence yellowish and rather dense on the head and abdomen; erect hairs quite profuse, yellowish or brownish in certain lights; those of the clypeus, the under side, and end of the abdomen much the longest; there are but a few erect hairs on the scape, the femora and tibiæ. Punctuation of the head, thorax, and abdomen minute and dense, those of the mandibles rather coarse. Scale stout, its upper edge arcuated.

This ant, as far as I have been able to ascertain, does not agree with any of the various forms comprising the group *L. niger*, which have thus far been described, but appears to be nearest related to one of the forms of *Lasius subniger*, inhabiting Maine, though it is almost twice as large and much darker and with the eyes more elongated; the general appearance of this ant is very similar to that of *Lasius aliena*.

Twenty-five specimens, taken at Sitka during June.

Type.—Cat. no. 5277, U. S. National Museum.

Subfamily MYRMICINI.

Leptothorax yankee Em. var. *kincaidi* var. nov.

Female: Length about 4 mm. Head and thorax black, the abdomen dark brown, with the posterior edge of the segments brownish yellow; antennæ, mandibles, and legs yellowish red, the neck and paler parts of the nodes of a darker red; the flagellum grows gradually darker towards the end, with the last joint black; femora dark brown, their base and apex yellowish red; teeth of mandibles black. Head finely striated, the striæ most distinct in front of the eyes and between the frontal carinæ; the posterior half of the head is finely and rather densely rugose or reticulate, the clypeus is almost smooth and the mandibles striato-punctate; pronotum and mesonotum quite coarsely rugose, the metanotum, scutellum and upper surface of nodes finely, though rather indistinctly, striated; declivity of the metathorax transversely striated. Abdomen smooth. Erect hairs short, truncate and pale yellowish, those of the nodes and abdomen longest; there are also a few much finer, erect hairs on the femora.

The female resembles somewhat that of *L. yankee*, which, however, is somewhat smaller, the last antennal joint and metanotal spines

shorter, the hairs of the abdomen much finer and the erect hairs of the femora wanting.

Worker: Length about 3 mm. Head and teeth of mandibles black, the abdomen dark brown; antennæ, mandibles, thorax, legs and nodes reddish yellow; coloration of the last three or four joints of the antennæ and the femora as in the female, the upper surface of the thorax and nodes more or less decidedly reddish brown. Striation of the head more distinct than in the female, and the space between the striæ more or less distinctly reticulated, particularly so towards the sides. Pronotum and mesonotum and the nodes finely rugose; sculpturing of the metanotum slightly coarser. Abdomen smooth; all the hairs similar to those of the female.

The worker is very similar in appearance to those of *L. yankee*, though somewhat larger, more robust, the sculpturing coarser and the hairs stouter.

One female and twelve workers, taken at Metlakahtla in June.

Type.—Cat. no. 5278, U. S. National Museum.

***Myrmica sabuleti* Meinert, var. *lobifrons* var. nov.**

Worker: Length about 3 mm. Color dark brown or black; mandibles, antennæ, legs, sides of the thorax and of the abdomen more or less distinctly yellowish brown, reddish brown, or almost black.

This variety is closely related to a form of *Myrmica sabuleti* inhabiting South Dakota, but is somewhat larger and much darker, with the sculpturing of the head and thorax coarser and the hairs stouter and shorter.

Type.—Cat. no. 5279, U. S. National Museum.

***Myrmica sulcinodoides* Em.**

Myrmica sulcinodoides EM., Zool. Jahrb. Jena, p. 313, 1894.

The palest specimens of this series agree exactly with those which I have seen from Hill City, South Dakota, while others are of a considerably darker shade.

Sixteen workers, collected at Sitka, June, 1899.