

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 ♀, Baharein, 9-10.VI.35.

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

Many ♀♀, 4♂♂, 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 4♂♂, Siwa, Siwa depression, Tutuata; Ultaba 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, Tutuata, 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.