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FOUR NEW GENERA OF ETHIOPIAN AND NEOTROPICAL FORMICIDAE

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Three of these strikingly new genera are based on ants collected by myself in Trinidad, British Guiana and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan; the fourth genus is based on a Northwestern University collection made by Mr. E. C. Williams, Jr., in the Panama Canal Zone. Two, *Talaridris* and *Acanthidris*, are members of the neotropical rain forest fauna and obviously belong to the tribe *Dacetonini* of the subfamily *Myrmicinae*. The third genus, *Hylidris*, is Ethiopian and a member of the tribe *Myrmecinini* of the subfamily *Myrmicinae*. It was taken on the fringe of the Congo rain forest and belongs to the forest floor fauna. The fourth genus, *Axinidris*, also Ethiopian, is especially noteworthy because it belongs to the subfamily *Dolichoderinae* which contains but few genera, only one of which is endemic to the Ethiopian Region. *Axinidris* is a member of the arboreal rain forest fauna and belongs to a new tribe, *Axinidrini*.

Up to 1934 but one genus (*Rhopalothrix* Emery) in the cosmopolitan tribe *Dacetonini* had been known which had seven-jointed antennae. It seems remarkable that in a six-year period (1933–38) three distinctively new genera with seven-jointed antennae should have been brought to light for the first time. The first of these, *Heptastruma* Weber, was based on a worker which I found in Cuba in 1933. The second, *Talaridris*, I first found in 1934 and again in 1935 and 1936. Mr. E. C. Williams, Jr., took the third, *Acanthidris*, in 1938. Species of *Rhopalothrix* are known also from New Guinea and Australia but none of the other seven-jointed genera are known outside of the Neotropical Region.

The antennal joint number is a constant character in the genera of this tribe compared with its variability in such genera as *Discothyrea* and *Rhizomyrma*. In *Rhizomyrma*, for example, it is not excessively rare to find an antennal joint partly divided or with one antenna having one joint more than its mate but no such inconstancy has been recorded in the *Dacetonini*.

These seven-jointed genera, of course, have other striking characters which are obviously generic so that they may be

readily recognized. Aside from the angular character of the head, which is almost a supra-generic character, they have remarkably distinctive mandibles. No other genera of ants have similar mandibles so that it would be possible to identify a mandible alone, from any part of the world, as belonging to one of these genera.

The third myrmicine genus, *Hylidris*, is marked distinctively by its 11-jointed antennae, unidentate clypeus produced as a lobe over the base of the mandibles, angular thorax with pronotal and epinotal teeth, smooth and shining integument, and the large, shallow punctations of the head and thoracic dorsum.

The dolichoderine genus, *Axinidris*, is based upon two workers taken in the Imatong Mountains on the Sudan-Uganda border. Both were found on leaves, one seven, the other sixteen feet above the ground, and are obviously arboreal ants. They had probably dropped down from the high trees. *Axinidris* is characterized above all by the high, median lamella on the epinotum, resembling an axe blade in profile. Non-bilateral thoracic protuberances are rare in ants. Other striking generic characters are the lamellate anterior margin of the clypeus which covers the base of the mandibles and is strongly notched medially, the six-jointed maxillary palpi, four-jointed labial palpi and epinotal spines.

All type specimens are in the author's collection.

Talaridris,[1] gen. nov.

Worker.—Size small. Head angular, broader than long, occipital margin concave, occipital corners angulate, sides in front of corners expanded as lobes, sides converging from thence to mandibles; anterior clypeal margin concave, frontal lobes small; antennal scrobes deep, complete and receiving distal part of scape and funiculus; eyes minute, situated on upper margin of middle antennal scrobes on posterior half of head; mandibles porrect, arcuate, narrow in front view but expanded apically so that the two mandibles meet to form a basket, expanded apical portion with a series of irregular teeth, denticles and lobes, basal portion of mandibles with a series of denticles medially; antennae 7-jointed, scapes broad, strongly elbowed and attached by a distinct pedicel, terminal funicular joint long and narrow, as long or longer than the preceding funicular joints taken together. Pro-mesonotum in profile not markedly impressed, meso-epinotal impression marked;

[1]From *Τάλαρος*, a wicker-basket, sometimes a wicker-basket for fowls, and *'ίδρίς*, the "knowing or provident one," in allusion to the remarkable mandibles which come together at their apices in somewhat the form of a basket. According to Dr. W. M. Wheeler, Hesiod referred to the ant, probably specifically the harvesting ant (*Messor*), as the "knowing or provident one."

thorax about two-thirds as broad through pronotum as its length to the epinotal spines; epinotum with distinct basal and declivous surfaces, spines large and triangular, continued downward as a lamella on either side. Petiole strongly pedunculate and with a distinct node, midventrally with a small tooth near the epinotum and directed forwards, postpetiole from above transverse, anterior margin concave, posterior medial margin produced as two gibbosities. Gaster ovate, first gastric segment concave anteriorly and covering about three-fourths of the gaster; sting short, exserted. Legs moderately long and slender. Opaque, punctate. Pilosity of coarse squamate hairs on the antennal scapes and body; scale-like or clavate hairs on appendages more numerous. Ferruginous.

Female.—Similar to the worker. Size small but distinctly larger than the worker. Winged. Eyes and ocelli large and prominent, the eyes located before the distal end of the antennal scrobes and partially dividing them; mandibles as in worker; general configuration of head as in worker; epinotal spines and lamellae as in worker. Opaque, punctate, with squamate and clavate hairs as in worker. Ferruginous.

Genotype: *Talaridris mandibularis*, gen. et sp. nov.

Talaridris mandibularis, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–3)

Worker.—Length 2.8 mm. (of thorax, in straight line from anterior pronotal margin to apex of episternal angles, 0.75 mm.). Head angulate in front view and, excluding mandibles, broader than long, occipital margin broadly concave, corners produced markedly as distinct angles, sides in front of occipital corners laterally expanded as rounded lobes, sides converging from here to mandibles, anterior clypeal margin concave, bounded laterally by rounded lobes; frontal lobes small and convex, only partly covering the antennal fossae; eyes minute, situated on margin of antennal scrobe on posterior half of head; mandibles porrect, in front view arcuate, narrow, with about six acute denticles on the inner margin, in other views seem to be markedly expanded apically so that the apices of the two mandibles form a basket, each mandible apically with an irregular series of lobes and teeth, consisting basally and ventrally of a bifurcated spine, a diastema, then an acute denticle, followed by a narrow lobe, another denticle, a second narrow lobe, a denticle, and finally a small, acute tooth; antennal scapes strongly elbowed, attached by a distinct pedicel, stout and expanded at the base, extending to the lateral lobes in front of the occiput; terminal funicular joint slightly longer than the preceding joints taken together.

Thorax in profile only very faintly impressed in the pro-mesonotal region but markedly impressed at the meso-epinotal suture, the pro-mesonotum convex; basal surface of epinotum convex, epinotal spines a pair of triangular lamellae continued down the declivous surface on either side; thorax from above nearly two-thirds as broad through pronotum as long to the epinotal spines, the pro-mesonotum convex laterally, epinotal sides sub-parallel, converging dorsally. Petiole strongly pedunculate, midventrally with a small tooth directed

anteriorly, node in profile convex, from above slightly longer than wide with sides convex; postpetiole in profile irregularly convex, from above somewhat kidney shaped, being concave where attached to the petiole and convex behind, the anterior part on either side of the concavity being slightly angulate, over twice as wide as the petiolar node, the posterior convexity produced medially as two feeble gibbosities. Gaster ovate, first gastric segment concave anteriorly, covering nearly three-fourths of gaster; sting short, exserted. Legs moderately long and slender, the middle coxae smallest.

Opaque, closely punctate, coarsely reticulate-punctate posteriorly on head, integument partly obscured by an apparent glandular excretion which also covers the mandibles.

Pilosity of numerous coarse hairs which are most numerous and scale-like or flattened-clavate on the appendages and sparse but much larger and squamate on the scapes and body; six of the latter are on the pro-mesonotum in a row on each side, two spring from the petiolar node behind, four similarly on the postpetiole and the gaster is fairly evenly sprinkled with them.

Pale ferruginous, appendages slightly paler than body.

Female.—Length 3.2 mm. (of thorax, in a straight line from anterior pronotal margin to apex of episternal angles, 0.81 mm.) Similar to the worker with the usual sexual differences. Occipital corners somewhat more acutely angulate. Eyes and ocelli large and prominent, the eyes being on the margin of the antennal scrobes above the fossae and below the lateral lobes of the head. Mandibular structure the same, mandibles meeting also at the expanded apices to form a basket.

Epinotal spines and lamellae as in the worker. Anterior margin of petiolar node less rounded, more angulate.

Holotype: One worker taken May 25, 1935, in the foothills north of Tunapuna, Trinidad, B. W. I. by myself (No. 180). The ant was beneath leaves under a bamboo clump in lastro or second growth forest at an elevation of slightly over 200 feet above sea level.

Paratypes (Syntypes): Two workers which I took November 18, 1934, north of Tunapuna (Lat. 10° 42′ 25″ N., Long. 61° 23′ W.) Trinidad, B. W. I. at an elevation of 1580 feet (No. 3b). These were also under leaves but in the rich forest on top of the ridge separating the Tacarigua and Maracas River valleys.

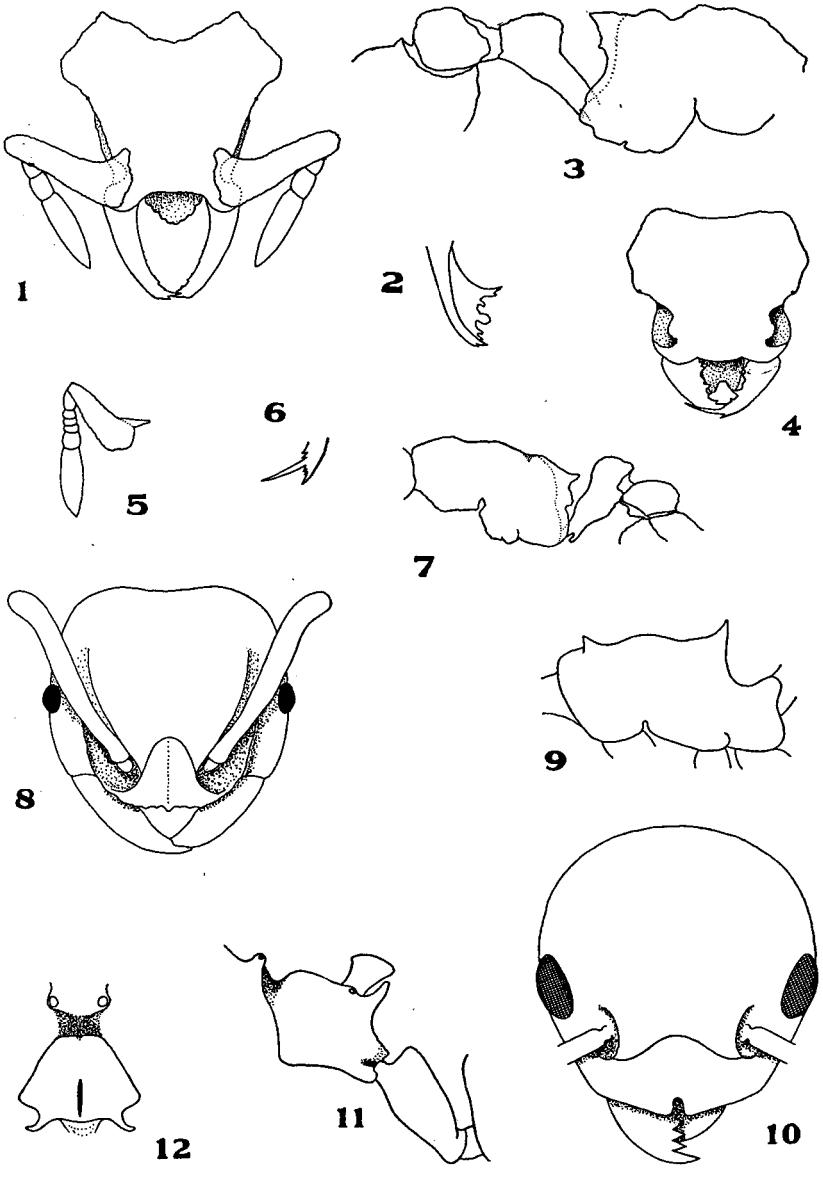
EXPLANATION OF PLATE

Figs. 1–3. *Talaridris mandibularis*, gen. et sp. nov. Worker: 1—Head, 2—mandible, 3—thorax and pedicel in profile.

Figs. 4–7. *Acanthidris isthmicus*, gen. et sp. nov. Worker: 4—Head, 5—antenna, 6—mandible, 7—thorax and pedicel in profile.

Figs. 8–9. *Hylidris myersi*, gen. et sp. nov. Worker: 8—Head, 9—thorax in profile.

Figs. 10–12. *Axinidris acholli*, gen. et sp. nov. Worker: 10—Head, 11—epinotum and petiole in profile, 12—epinotum from above.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Gynetype: One dealate female taken by myself June 24, 1936, in virgin rain forest beside the Oko River, tributary of the Cuyuni River, British Guiana, (No. 506). The ant was in humus on the roots of a tree about two feet above the ground.

Acanthidris,[2] gen. nov.

Worker.—Allied to *Heptastruma* Weber and *Rhopalothrix* Emery. Size small. Head angular; occipital margin convex with corners rounded, anterior clypeal margin transverse, frontal carinae small and partially covering a distinct fossa for the reception of the antennal scape's pedicel; eyes minute; mandibles porrect, arcuate, stout and short, outer margin strongly convex, prolonged apically into several fine teeth and subapically into a long, spinous tooth, medial portion with a series of acute denticles of several sizes; antennae 7-jointed, antennal scapes short and broad, not reaching occipital corners, strongly elbowed with a distinct narrow pedicel articulating with the head, terminal joint of funiculus exceeding all preceding funicular joints together in length. Thorax flattened dorsally, broadest through pronotum, in profile with promesonotal and meso-epinotal regions feebly impressed, sides subvertical; epinotum with a high lamina on either side which starts from the basal surface, extends down the declivous surface and is prolonged into acute epinotal spines. Petiole strongly pedunculate and with a distinct node rounded above, mid-ventrally with a small tooth directed anteriorly; postpetiole from above kidney-shaped, the anterior margin concave, the posterior margin convex. Gaster ovate, first gastric segment comprising over three-fourths of gaster. Legs of medium length, median legs much the smallest, tibiae massive.

Opaque, punctate, integument covered partly by a glandular excretion. Pilosity diverse, of sparse, coarse, clavate-squamate hairs which extend to the tarsi and tibiae as well as the body; much finer short, clavate hairs covering body generally; longer and finer hairs about mouthparts and terminal gastric segments. Ferruginous.

Genotype: *Acanthidris isthmicus*, gen. et sp. nov.

Acanthidris isthmicus, sp. nov.

(Figs. 4–7)

Worker.—Length 2.2 mm. (of thorax, in straight line from anterior pronotal margin to apex of episternal angles, 0.51 mm.). Head angular; in front view, excluding mandibles, one-sixth broader than long, occipital margin distinctly concave, occipital angles evenly rounded, sides of head produced as two convexities back of antennal insertions and an even convexity at insertions extending to clypeus, anterior clypeal margin feebly convex; frontal lobes small but covering antennal insertions, convex, and partially roofing a distinct fossa for the accommodation of the antennae; eye minute, apparently of a single facet, situated

[2]From *'άκανθα*, a thorn or spine, and *'ίδρίς* the "knowing or provident one" in allusion to the long spine on the mandible.

beneath a gibbosity at the upper margin of the antennal scrobe at a level about opposite the middle of the scape; antennal scrobes complete, divided into a proximal part for the antennal insertions and a distal part for the entire scape and proximal joints; mandibles porrect, stout, outer margin strongly convex, with a very long sub-apical spine-like tooth, three apical denticles, and on the inner surface about seven acute denticles alternating in two sizes; antennal scapes strongly elbowed with a slender rod-like pedicel and a massive, much larger distal portion, scape failing to reach the occipital angles by a distance equal to over half its length, terminal funicular joint longer than all preceding joints but shorter than the scape.

Thorax with a short neck, in profile with pronotum slightly angulate in front and separated from mesonotum by a feeble depression, the latter feebly convex; meso-epinotal impression shallow, epinotum with a high translucent lamina on either side starting from the basal surface and prolonged as distinct spines separating basal and declivous regions, the lamina produced beneath the spines as an irregular lobe. Thorax from above, excluding neck, broader through pronotum than its length to meso-epinotal impression, convex laterally, mostly flat on top, meso-epinotal impression laterally distinct. Petiole in profile with a distinct peduncle whose anterior dorsal surface is convex and whose mid-ventral surface bears a distinct hooked process directed anteriorly; node slightly convex above, feebly pedunculate behind; node from above transversely elliptical except for the nearly straight posterior margin, about two-fifths broader than long. Postpetiole in profile longer than petiolar node, convex above, highest at posterior half; from above kidney-shaped, the anterior margin strongly concave, the posterior convex, two and one-half times broader than long. First gastric segment covering more than three-fourths of gaster when viewed from above and with anterior margin strongly concave, flattened dorsally, remaining segments much smaller. Legs of moderate proportions, median legs including coxae much the smallest, tibiae massive.

Opaque, densely punctate, integument largely obscured by an apparent glandular deposit extending even to the mandibles.

Pilosity diverse, of sparse, short clavate hairs over the body generally, much longer and slenderer hairs confined largely to the mouthparts, terminal gastric segments and appendages; and coarse squamate-clavate hairs confined largely to the scapes, tarsi, tibiae and posterior half of gaster.

Reddish-ferruginous, appendages but slightly paler.

Holotype: One worker taken July 29, 1938, on Barro Colrado Island, Panama Canal Zone, by Mr. E. C. Williams, Jr. (No. 313 (131)). It probably belonged to the floor fauna of the rain forest covering the island.

This genotype differs particularly from the monotypic *Heptastruma wheeleri* Weber of Cuba in larger size, in lacking the transverse ridges of the head, in the structure of the mandibles, and in the more extensive and diverse pilosity. *Acan-*

thidris, however, appears closer to *Heptastruma* in general habitus than to *Talaridris*, gen. nov., or *Rhopalothrix*.

Hylidris,[3] gen. nov.

Worker.—Size medium-small. Head in front view, including mandibles, sub-circular, occipital margin impressed, anterior clypeal margin produced as an irregularly convex lobe covering the base of the mandibles and with a median tubercle; frontal carinae feebly raised, carried past the eye level; antennal scrobes a feebly concave impression of the length of the carinae, bounded laterally by a much shorter carina; antennal fossae distinct, bordering the anterior clypeal margin; eyes moderately small and convex, situated near the middle of the head; mandibles short, stout, curved, irregularly toothed at the apex of the masticatory margin; antennae 11-jointed, scapes exceeding occipital corners, funiculus with a 3-jointed club, joints 3–6 broader than long, terminal joint longer than the preceding two taken together. Thorax in profile sub-rectangular, the dorsal surface flattened, bearing on each side a low, acute pronotal spine, a longer acute epinotal spine and a low mesonotal gibbosity; episternal angles in the form of rounded, lamellate lobes; thorax from above with convex pronotal margin, sides nearly straight and converging posteriorly, about twice as wide through pronotum as through epinotum. Petiole strongly pedunculate with a high node, laterally compressed in front of node, about as wide through peduncle proximally as through node. Postpetiole high, convex above, wider than petiole, trapezoidal from above with sides converging anteriorly. Gaster ovate, first gastric segment covering nearly all of gaster. Legs moderately long and slender, femora suddenly incrassate at distal half; first tarsal joint very long, longer than remaining joints taken together.

Body smooth and shining; head with scattered, coarse but shallow punctations which bear a single, fine hair; thorax above with a few similar punctations; pedicel and gaster without punctations.

Pilosity consisting of the sparse long hairs in the punctations and minute, scattered, appressed hairs; antennae and legs with moderately abundant fine, yellowish hairs.

Color brown, gaster castaneous, appendages paler than body.

Genotype: *Hylidris myersi* gen. et sp. nov.

Hylidris myersi sp. nov.

(Figs. 8–9)

Worker.—Length 3–3.1 mm. (of thorax, in straight line from anterior pronotal margin to apex of episternal angles, 0.77–0.75 mm.). Head in front view, including mandibles, sub-circular in outline except for impressed occipital margin; excluding mandibles, as broad as long; distinctly and broadly impressed at mid-occipital margin, sides convex, anterior clypeal margin produced as a convex lobe covering the base of

[3]From ὑλή, forest or woods, and ἰδρίς, the "knowing or provident one" in allusion to the habitat of the ant.

the mandibles, its medial margin irregularly truncate and produced at the middle into a single median tubercle, the whole clypeus feebly concave from below; frontal carinae only feebly raised but distinct to a level midway between eyes and occiput, the shallow, concave scrobes distinct to the same level and bordered laterally by a feeble carina extending from the clypeal margin to the eye level, antennal fossae much deeper than the scrobes, sub-circular and extending to the anterior clypeal margin; eyes small, convex, situated slightly posterior to the middle of the head when including clypeus but excluding mandibles; mandibles short, stout, curved, feebly trigonal, their masticatory border with two apical teeth and one or two faint, basal denticles of variable development; antennal scapes curved, extending past the occipital corners by a distance about equal to their distal diameter; funiculus with a three-jointed club which is distinctly longer than the remaining joints, joints 3–7 broader than long, terminal joint as long as the three preceding joints taken together. Thorax in profile sub-rectangular, the dorsal surface being flattish with a short, acute and stout pronotal spine, a low mesonotal gibbosity and a longer, acute, stout and upwardly directed epinotal spine; episternal angle in the form of a high, rounded lamella; thorax from above with feebly convex pronotal margin, sides nearly straight and converging posteriorly, twice as wide between apices of pronotal spines as the basal surface of the epinotum which latter is slightly wider than the space between the epinotal spines. Petiole strongly pedunculate, in profile the node twice as high as the peduncle and a smoothly rounded acute angle above; from above the peduncle is as wide proximally as the node, petiole compressed in front of node. Post-petiole in profile as high as the petiolar node, evenly convex dorsally; from above a little wider than the petiole; trapezoidal with sides converging anteriorly. Gaster ovate, first segment covering over nine-tenths of the gaster and from above concave anteriorly for the reception of the postpetiole; sting not visible externally. Legs moderately long and slender, femora suddenly incrassate at distal half, tibiae of smaller diameter, lenticular in outline, first tarsal joint of hind legs longer than the tibia or of the remaining tarsal joints taken together.

Body predominantly smooth and shining; head with scattered, coarse but very shallow, punctations which bear in the center a single fine, curved, yellowish hair, clypeus with a feeble median carina, mandibles with several coarse, rounded rugae; thorax above with several punctations as on head, and with hairs; pedicel and gaster smooth.

Pilosity consisting of the head and thorax long hairs in the punctations and minute and scattered appressed hairs; antennae and legs with much more numerous fine, yellow hairs of moderate length.

Color dark brown, gaster castaneous, appendages a more yellowish brown.

Cotypes: Two workers (No. 1470 and 1474) taken by myself August 10, 1939, beside the Khor Aba on the Aloma Plateau, Equatoria, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, at an elevation of about 3700 ft. This locality, in Lat. 3° 47′ N. and Long. 30° 37′ E., is only a mile or two from the Belgian Congo border and is on the

Nile-Congo divide. The ants and several paratype workers were in rain forest of a luxuriant type referred to as gallery forest. They were among humus on the forest floor and were slow-moving in habit. When disturbed they became motionless, "feigning death" momentarily like the *Dacetonini*. A specimen was taken to the British Museum October, 1939, and shown to my colleague, Mr. Donisthorpe. Together we endeavored to determine it as a known genus without success. The specimen, together with a few other Sudan ants of my collecting, was left with Mr. Donisthorpe as a slight token of what was for me a most pleasant and stimulating visit despite the war.

This species is dedicated to my friend, Dr. J. G. Myers, in memory of my exceedingly interesting Sudan safari as his guest. Both this expedition and one which we made in 1935 to the Orinoco Delta of Venezuela produced much new myrmecological material which will be published in future papers.

Axinidris,[4] gen. nov.

Worker.—Size medium. Head ovoid, anterior clypeal margin produced as an apron or plate covering the base of the mandibles and strongly notched medially, frontal carinae short, curved, slightly raised, not covering antennal insertions, antennal fossae shallow, elliptical; eyes large, convex, situated medial to sides; mandibles trigonal with about 7 stout, acute teeth; maxillary palpi long, 6-jointed, the basal joint very small, the other joints much longer than thick, joints 2–4 stouter than 5–6, labial palpi much shorter, 4-jointed, the basal joint very small, joints 2–4 stout, longer than broad; antennae 12-jointed, long and slender, scapes long, slender, feebly S-shaped, distinctly exceeding occipital margin; first funicular joint longer and more slender than the remaining joints. Thorax with distinct mesometanotal and meta-epinotal sutures, in profile with convex pro-mesonotum, descending metanotum, and large and protuberant metanotal spiracles which are followed by a deep meta-epinotal impression; from above pro-mesonotal sides marginate and convex, metanotum much narrower; epinotum in profile flattened on top, abruptly descending anteriorly and posteriorly, the posterior half of the basal surface with a median high, vertical lamella like the blade of an axe, the angle between the basal and declivous surfaces on either side with a slender, acute spine; from above the epinotum is transversely trapezoidal with sides converging anteriorly; petiole with cuneate node; gaster with four segments visible from above, the first and second sub-equal, the second longer than the third, the third about twice as long as the fourth; cloacal orifice apical; stingless. Legs long and slender, each tibia with a large, finely pectinate spur, first tarsal joint greatly elongated.

[4]From *'αξίνη*, an axe-head, and *'ίδρίς*, the "knowing or provident one," in allusion to the unique median epinotal projection which in profile resembles the blade of an axe. The shape of an axe-blade has varied little since classical times.

Sub-lucid, except gaster which is lucid. Finely but smoothly punctate to vermiculate-punctate, thorax smoothly and shallowly rugose, gaster microscopically reticulate.

Pilosity of a sparse pubescence and a few scattered hairs on mandibles and anterior clypeal margin. Color brown.

Genotype: *Axinidris acholli*, gen. et sp. nov.

This genus differs considerably from any genera hitherto described and does not belong clearly to any tribe as now defined. For the reception of this genus the new tribe, *Axinidrini*, is here proposed. The characteristics of the new tribe include triangular, toothed mandibles, notched clypeus, six and four-jointed maxillary and labial palpi, respectively, epinotal spines and a median lamella, nodiform petiole and smoothly sculptured integument.

Axinidris acholli sp. nov.

(Figs. 10–12)

Worker.—Length 3.6 mm. (of thorax in straight line from anterior pronotal reflexed margin, but not including the short "neck," to episternal angles, 1.20 mm.). Head in front view, including mandibles, ovoid; excluding mandibles slightly longer than broad, broadest back of eyes, occipital margin convex, sides convex, anterior clypeal margin produced as an apron or plate covering the base of the mandibles and with a deep, rounded, median notch. Clypeus extending laterally to sides of head to a level with the antennal insertions; frontal carinae short, curved and slightly raised, not covering antennal insertions, not lobate; antennal fossae shallow, elliptical; eyes large, feebly convex, situated slightly median to sides; mandibles small, trigonal, with seven large teeth visible of which six project from beneath the clypeal margin, apical tooth largest; antennal scape exceeding occipital margin by more than its distal diameter, first funicular joint slightly over two and one-half times longer than broad but less than twice as long as second joint, much shorter than joints 2–3 taken together, all joints longer than broad, joints 9–10 nearly as broad as long, terminal and first joints sub-equal. Thorax in profile with pro-mesonotum convex, metanotum straight and sloping downwards to the strongly projecting metanotal spiracle on either side, meta-epinotal impression deep, bounded anteriorly by the metanotal spiracles; thorax from above with the pro-mesonotum angulate and convex laterally, much narrowed through the metanotum whose sides converge to the spiracles, thorax narrowest through meta-epinotal impression which is less than half as broad as the pro-mesonotum; epinotum in profile rising sharply to a flat basal surface which bears on either side posteriorly a slender, acute spine curved upwards and forwards; between the spines on the basal surfaces rises a median lamella like the blade of an axe which is convex dorsally, concave in profile anteriorly and posteriorly, and rises distinctly higher than the epinotal spines; basal surface of epinotum from

above transversely trapezoidal, the anterior margin feebly impressed medially, sides straight and converging anteriorly from rounded angles in front of the spines, median lamella occupying about half of the middle. Petiole in profile with anteriorly directed cuneate node which from behind appears rounded laterally and above. Gaster with four segments visible from above, the first over-arching the petiole; second segment longest, first longer than third, third more than twice as long as fourth. Legs long and slender, first tibial joint about as long as all following joints taken together.

Head, thorax and appendages sub-lucid, gaster lucid. Head finely and shallowly vermiculate-punctate; thorax with sparse, coarse but low and smoothly rounded irregular rugae between which are scattered shallow punctations; epinotum, including the median lamella, sparsely and shallowly punctate, petiole finely punctate, gaster microscopically reticulate, appendages finely punctate.

Pilosity of a sparse appressed pubescence most abundant on the appendages, less so on the back and ventrum of head and on the epinotum, nearly absent on thorax and gastric dorsum. The pubescence of the epinotum is much longer and more upright. Mandibles, anterior clypeal margin and petiole with a few fine, yellowish hairs.

Dark brown, appendages are more yellowish brown, the tibiae a brownish yellow.

Cotypes: Two workers which I took August 2 and 3, 1939, at elevations of 6200 and about 4800 feet, respectively, in the Imatong Mountains, Equatoria, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan less than ten miles in a direct line from the Uganda frontier. The August 2 worker was taken from a branch which had just fallen from a height of about 16 feet on a tree. The tree was part of a forest of peculiar type with a tangle of lianas of several inches in diameter growing in places close to the ground. The conifer, *Podocarpus*, was an element of the forest but not dominant. Other ants found here included *Tetramorium simillimum* (F. Smith), *Aneleus politus* Santschi and an *Acantholepis*. The August 3 worker was observed on the leaf of a liliaceous plant about seven feet above the ground. It may well have fallen from a tree about 100 feet higher. The forest was a rain forest type and contained colonies of the equatorial rain forest genus *Macromischoides* of an apparently new species.

The species is dedicated to the Acholli or Acholle, one of the negro tribes inhabiting this region of the Sudan. The name is also used for one of the ranges or districts making up the Imatong Mountains.