

A NEW FORM OF A SOUTHERN ANT FROM NAUSHON ISLAND, MASSACHUSETTS.

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IN August, 1915, Mr. F. X. Williams and I spent part of a day collecting on Naushon Island, opposite Woods Hole, Mass. Among other insects characteristic of more southern regions we found several colonies of a large *Aphaenogaster*, which were nesting beneath large stones on the tops of low hills near the shore. This proves to be an undescribed subspecies of *Aphaenogaster treatæ* Forel, a species which, with its variety *ashmeadi* Emery, is found throughout the South Atlantic states and as far north as Connecticut. This occurrence on Naushon Island is an addition to the long list of insects and plants typical of the southern coastal region which occur also at isolated points on the north coast, as relicts of the ancient coastal plain fauna and flora.

The subspecies may be characterized as follows:

Aphaenogaster treatæ Forel subsp. *wheeleri* nov.

Worker: Similar to *treatæ* in form, sculpture and pilosity, but differs in having the lamellæ at the base of antennal scapes broadly angulate in front, instead of evenly rounded. The color is much darker, being dark fuscous, with the front of head and the gastric dorsum piceous.

Female: Differing from *treatæ* in the following characters. The color is dark fuscous to piceous. The antennal lamellæ are very noticeably angulate in front. The epinotal spines are longer and less broad at the base. The wings are more deeply infuscated.

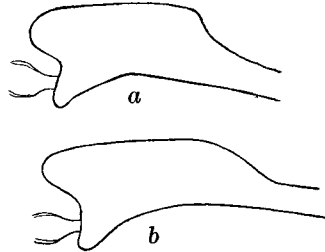


Fig. 1. *Aphaenogaster treatæ* Forel. a, antennal lamella of subsp. *wheeleri*, nov.; b, same of *treatæ* Forel.

Described from two females and numerous workers.

The darker coloration is very noticeable and constant in a large series of the new subspecies, compared with many specimens of the typical *treatæ* from various localities.