

⑧ **The Status of the Genus *Hercynia* J. Enzmann  
(Hymenoptera: Formicidae)**

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The genus *Hercynia* was described by J. Enzmann (Jour. New York Ent. Soc. 1947, 55: 43-44) on the basis of workers and a female specimen from Panama. *H. panamana* was described on pages 44 to 47 with figures and as a new species, with the designation inherent as genotype of *Hercynia*. The types, however, were recently examined by the present writer and prove to be identical with specimens of *Wasmannia auropunctata* (Roger) determined by Wheeler and other myrmecologists and deposited in the Wheeler Collection at the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Roger described *auropunctata* as *Tetramorium auropunctatum* in 1863 (Berlin. Ent. Zeitschr. 7:182); Forel described *Wasmannia* as a new genus in 1893 (Trans. London Ent. Soc., p. 383). Wheeler designated *Tetramorium auropunctatum* Roger as genotype for *Wasmannia* in 1911. Thus *Wasmannia* as a genus and *W. auropunctata* as a species take precedence over *Hercynia* and *H. panamana* respectively, the latter names being relegated to synonymy.

The differentiation of the new genus was based partly on the supposed two-jointed club of the antenna, *Wasmannia* being described in the literature as having a three-jointed club. It is extremely doubtful, however, whether the most proximal of the three terminal funicular joints may be considered as part of the club, since this joint appears very slightly larger than the middle joints preceding it and much smaller than its distal neighbor. The term "two-jointed" would seem to be more accurate in describing the club of at least the genotype of *Wasmannia*.

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