

## THREE MYRMECOPHILUS MITES.

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Many American entomologists have, doubtless, been much interested in the accounts published during the past year by Charles Janet on the relations of certain Myrmecophilus Acarians and their hosts. His very interesting papers have been noticed in various English and American journals. Particular attention was paid to two species of Eamasidæ, *Discopoma comata* and *Antennophorus Uhlmanni*.

A few years ago, while collecting mites on Long Island, New York, I obtained three species of Eamasidæ, which were always associated with certain ants. One, a species of *Discopoma*, is attached to the body of the ant, and appears to obtain food from it in the same manner as its European relative, by piercing the skin. But while the European species appears to choose the abdomen, the American form is, at least generally, found attached to the thorax of the host; and I have not observed more than two mites attached to one ant. There is usually but one mite fastened to the dorsum of the thorax near the median line. In some nests the mites were found on about 10 per cent. of the ants, but in other nests they were much more scarce.

Of the other two mites, one, the *Uropoda*, was found in considerable numbers associated with the same ant as the *Discopoma*, but they were not attached to the ants. The other was observed only a few times in the nests of another ant.

The ants have been kindly determined for me by Mr. T. Pergande. *Holostaspis mæstus*, n. sp.

Body one and one-half times longer than broad, broadly rounded behind, sides subparallel, narrowed in front on cephalic part, and narrowly rounded in front, quite convex above. Body above with four rows each side of clavate hairs; two lateral rows of about nine hairs, which start from the shoulders; the third row has about ten hairs, one on the cephalic part of body; the sub-median row has about twelve hairs, and starts from the anterior edge of head. On the soft posterior sides is a row of a few small clavate hairs; soft parts of venter with a few simple hairs, and some on the margins of the sternal and genital plates. Anal plate nearly circular, and almost its diameter from the hind border of the ventral plate. Legs of moderate length, clothed with a few clavate hairs on basal joints, and more and simple ones on the apical joints. Length, 1. mm.