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NEW SPECIES OF AFRICAN HYMENOPTERA

Family **FORMICIDAE**Subfamily **PONERINAE** 

Bothroponera variolosa n.sp. (Figs. 1, 1a)

§. 11 mm. long. - Black. Mandibles dark castaneous, tarsi brownish black, the apical joint paler, the apical abdominal segment reddish brown. Mandibles shining, sparsely and coarsely punctured over the inner half. Apical margins of the first to third abdominal segments narrowly reddish in the middle. Clypeus subcarinate, the anterior half in the middle flattened, smooth and shining, the apical margin obtusely angular. Frontal carinae wide, shining and sparsely punctured over the anterior two-thirds, striate-punctate behind. The cheeks between the eyes and the base of the mandibles longitudinally striate. The third and fourth tergites dull, finely longitudinally striate and with a few large shallow punctures, the apical tergite dull, very finely punctured. The sculpture on the rest of the dorsal surface of the body consists of a very large and deep puncturation or pitting. The pits are separated by narrow and trenchant interspaces, except on the second tergite where the punctures are oblique or open posteriorly and the interspaces wider and longitudinally striate. The posterior half of the first tergite is also striate between the pits. The pitting is largest on the epinotum, petiole and first tergite, a little smaller on the pronotum, yet smaller on the head and smallest on the anterior half of the mesonotum. Mesopleura and sides of the epinotum over the anterior half, closely and longitudinally striate. Femora and tibiae shallowly and sparsely punctured. The pubescence all over is short, oblique and fulvous and fairly sparse.

First, third and fourth joints of the flagellum as long as wide, the second a trifle longer than wide and barely longer than the first, the fifth to tenth wider than long, the apical joint nearly twice as long as wide and rufescent at the tip. The scapes extend back to the occipital margin, which is almost straight. Mandibles with seven teeth. Head, excluding the mandibles, one-seventh longer than wide, parallel-sided, the posterior angles rounded. Eyes situated in front of the middle. Pronotum

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