

The Genus *Hagensia* Forel (Formicidae)

by

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This genus was originally erected by Forel (1901) as a subgenus of *Megaponera* Mayr, and distinguished from that genus mainly by the absence of a carina on the cheeks, and by the marginate pronotum and the pointed and trenchant node of the petiole. Emery (1911) attached the subgenus to *Euponera*, but neither Emery nor Forel noticed the groove on the mandibles, and since in addition to these characters the claws are toothed in the ♂ and ♀, I raised *Hagensia* to generic rank (1926).

In my monograph of the South African Formicidae (1915) the description of *H. peringueyi* Em. was based on a specimen from Saldanha Bay presented to me by Dr. Peringuey. Recently I had the opportunity to collect some 17 specimens in the type locality, Nordhoek in the Cape Peninsula. In all these specimens the form and position of the fovea on the mandibles were the same as in *H. havilandi* Forel, and not as in the specimen from Saldanha Bay. Dr. Hesse, of the South African Museum, kindly lent me all five specimens in their collection placed under *peringueyi*. One of these is evidently the type described by Emery, bearing a label in Dr. Peringuey's writing, "unique, à renvoyer". Three others, ♀ ♀, are from Saldanha Bay, and the fifth is an apterous ♂ from Darling, C.P. The 17 specimens from Nordhoek agree in every respect with the type, from which it follows that the specimens from Saldanha Bay constitute a distinct race. Emery in his description rightly surmises that the glabrous condition is due to abrasion or defective conservation, since the pubescence in my 17 examples is plainly apparent.

The race *saldanhae* differs from the type of *peringueyi* (Figs. 1, 1a and 1b) as follows:

Puncturation of the head larger, clearly resolvable under a magnification of 32 diameters (45-50 diameters in the type). Sides of the head and pronotum less convex. The fovea on the mandibles is very shallow and transverse in position, and the inner half of the mandibles is more strongly punctured (Fig. 4). The posterior third of the epinotal dorsum is not deeply grooved, i.e. transversely concave, as in the type, since the raised lateral margins of the declivity are not continued over the dorsum. The specimens are also smaller, 9.3 to 9.5 mm. long. The very fine pubescence on the whole body is brownish as in *peringueyi* i. sp. The type of the subspecies is in the South African Museum. In the same collection there is also an apterous ♂, without any traces of wing-bases, from Darling, C.P. It is labelled *E. (Mesoponera) peringueyi*, probably by the late Mr. Lightfoot. In the absence of workers from the same locality I hesitate to confirm that determination.