

THE IDENTITY OF *ANDRAGNATHUS*,  
A FORGOTTEN FORMICINE ANT GENUS  
(HYM., FORMICIDAE)

BY DONAT AGOSTI AND BARRY BOLTON

The monotypic formicine genus *Andragnathus*, first described by Emery (1922), has remained uninvestigated ever since. Apart from a mention in the *Genera Insectorum* catalogue (Emery, 1925) and an appearance in Brown's (1973) list of ant genera, no other information on this enigmatic genus appears in the literature. The original description of *Andragnathus* was based upon a single male, collected at light at Bogor (= Buitenzorg), Java.

One of us (D.A.) is currently studying the subfamily Formicinae, with the aim of defining its genera more accurately. We found that the published information on *Andragnathus* was too scanty to allow us to interpret its identity, and so we borrowed the holotype male of *A. hubrechtii* from MCSN, courtesy of Mr Valter Raineri. We were surprised to find that the type-species of *Andragnathus* proved to belong in the genus *Paratrechina*. It appears that Emery (1922) misinterpreted the form of the mandibles in his specimen, saying that they were rudimentary. This is not the case; the mandibles are in fact well developed but are largely concealed by the projecting clypeus. Nevertheless, this misinterpretation apparently affected Emery's judgement sufficiently for him to erect a separate genus for the specimen.

A search through the BM(NH) collection of *Paratrechina* revealed an unnamed nest-series collected by W.L. Brown Jr. at Tjibodas, Java. Fortunately this series contains both workers and males. The latter appear conspecific with *Andragnathus hubrechtii* and the former irrefutably confirm that *Paratrechina* is the correct generic placement.

*Paratrechina* Motschoulsky

*Paratrechina* Motschoulsky, 1863: 13. Type-species: *Formica longicornis* Latreille, 1802: 113 (= *Paratrechina currens* Motschoulsky, 1863: 14 (Synonymy by Emery, 1892: 166)), by designation of Wheeler, 1911: 170.  
*Andragnathus* Emery, 1922: 111. Type-species: *Andragnathus hubrechtii* Emery, 1922: 111, by monotypy. **Syn.n.**

For diagnosis of the North American species of *Paratrechina* see Trager (1984); the remaining part of this large and mainly pantropical genus awaits revision.

Although the single male of *hubrechtii* is badly mounted, all the important characters can be seen. A short redescription is given below. The basic character used by Emery to erect his new genus was the form of the mandibles, which he described as "rudimentaires, représentées par un moignon microscopique". A close look at high magnification revealed a mandible typical of *Paratrechina* (and of many other formi-