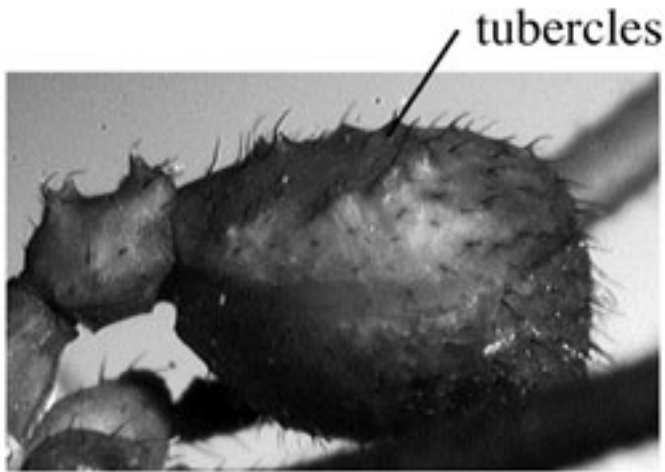
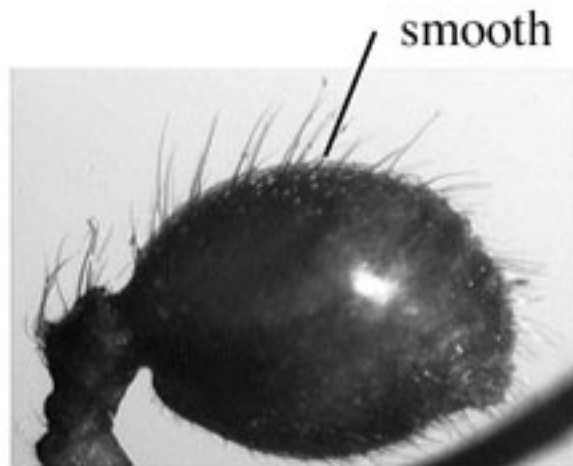


Key to Costa Rican *Atta*

How to tell *Atta* from *Acromyrmex*:

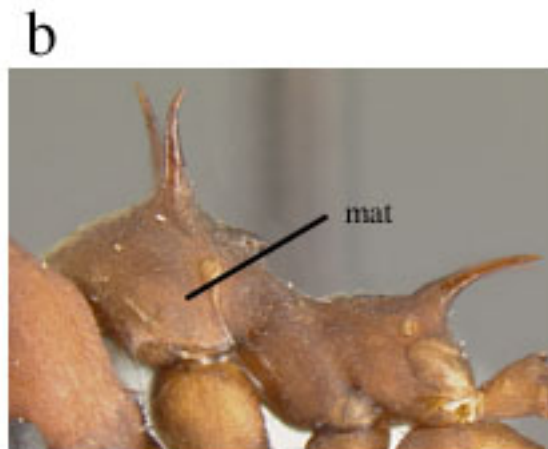


Acromyrmex



Atta

How to tell *Atta cephalotes* from *Atta colombica*:



- a. Side of worker mesosoma with at least small patch smooth and shiny; color red orange; major workers enormous, with tuft of red wooly hair on face: [cephalotes](#)
- b. Worker surface completely mat, with no shiny spot; color maroon; majors not as large and without wooly hair on face: [colombica](#)

Taxonomic notes

There are literature reports of *Atta sexdens* from Costa Rica. However, I have never seen *Atta* specimens from Costa Rica that I would identify as *sexdens* (I have seen *sexdens* from Panama and further south), and in Borgmeier's taxonomic revision of *Atta* the material examined list contains only material from Panama and South America. I suspect the reports of *sexdens* in Costa Rica are due to misidentifications.

The last revision of *Atta* was by Borgmeier (Borgmeier, T. 1959. Revision der Gattung *Atta* Fabricius (Hymenoptera, Formicidae). *Studia Entomologica* (n.s.)2:321-390). A modern revision is desperately needed, and it is surprising how little taxonomic work has been done on the genus given its economic importance.

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Date of this version: 8 October 2003.

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