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The Real *Trigona dorsalis* Smith Rediscovered (Hym.).

By T. D. A. COCKERELL, Boulder, Colorado.

Mr. Frederick M. Gaige, of the University of Michigan, sends me three workers of *Trigona* which he collected recently in Colombia, when a member of the Bryant Walker Expedition. The following data concerning them are taken from his note book:

"Cincinnati Coffee Plantation (20 miles inland from the port of Santa Marta). July 12, 1914. Altitude, 5,000 feet. Stingless bees; found colony in deep forest, situated at foot of huge buttressed tree; had cylindrical tunnel of wax cemented on side of one buttress, with end free from the bark, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, opening rather more than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. This is entrance to nest, 20 inches long, leading to ground in gradual curve. Several bees about the opening, both entering and

† Les Bromeliacees Epiphytes. C. Picado. Bull. Scient. de la France et de la Belgique; 7th series, vol. 47, fasc. 3, pp. 356, 357, pl. 13, figs. 1, 2, 4.

coming out. Could not open nest. Bees not easily disturbed." (No. 124.)

Upon examination, the species appeared to be new. It was seen to be closely allied to *T. zieglerei mayarum* Ckll., from Guatemala, but that insect has clear (suffusedly yellowish) wings, a larger mesothorax, and is much less densely pubescent. It was also close to a specimen labelled "*T. dorsalis* Sm.," from Smith's collection, but that has yellow bands along the inner orbits to the summit, less pubescent front, differently colored wings, etc.

Unfortunately, however, confusion has arisen concerning the application of the name *T. dorsalis* Smith. Friese has applied it to *T. pectoralis* D. T., which agrees neither with Smith's description nor with my Smithian specimen. Two descriptions of *T. dorsalis* by Smith are extant; the first published (Cat. Hym. Brit. Mus.) in 1854; the second (Trans. Ent. Soc., Lond.) in 1863. Upon comparison, discrepancies appear. Thus, in 1854, it is said that the wings are testaceous, in 1863 that they are hyaline. My supposed co-type, one of Smith's own specimens, is the insect of 1863, but what of the *dorsalis* of 1854 from Pará; could it be the insect found by Mr. Gaige? The description certainly suggested such a possibility. At this point I forwarded my description to Mr. G. Meade-Waldo, of the British Museum, with a statement of my perplexity. He now kindly replies that he finds in the Museum two distinct species under *dorsalis*, one the original insect of 1854, the other that of 1863, bearing, like my Smithian specimen, the number 18. My description of Mr. Gaige's insect fits the true *dorsalis* "admirably," and is "without any doubt" that species. I give this description herewith, as Smith's account is too brief.

***Trigona dorsalis* Smith.**

Length nearly 7 mm.; abdomen long and comparatively narrow; head broad, black, with the clypeus, triangular supraclypeal mark, triangular lateral marks (filling space between clypeus and eye, and sending a slight linear process upwards along orbit), labrum and mandibles chrome yellow; mandibles with a broad simple outer cutting edge,

and two sharp teeth on the inner side, near the inner angle (the innermost representing that angle); malar space linear in front, broadened behind; front and face with fine fulvous tomentum, not concealing surface, but giving it a strong yellowish cast; vertex with denser and longer hair; cheeks covered with a dense fulvous felt, wholly hiding surface; thorax, except middle of metathorax, closely beset with fulvous hair, so that the color of the tegument is much obscured; mesothorax black with the lateral margins narrowly yellow; scutellum yellow; sides of thorax fulvous yellow, with a more or less distinct vertical dusky band on pleura; middle of metathorax broadly black, sides fulvous yellow; scape yellow, with a black stripe on upper end above; flagellum black above, testaceous beneath; legs clear fulvous, the broadly expanded apical half of hind tibiae black, the black surface invaded on inner side by a broad band of very short fulvous tomentum, the tibial margins with long black and fulvous hairs; hind basitarsi black on outer side, on inner side densely covered with fulvous hair; tegulae fulvous; wings bright orange fulvous, only slightly translucent; abdomen clear fulvous, yellower beneath.

I fail to find a name applicable to the *T. dorsalis* of 1863, so it may be called

Trigona meade-waldoi n. n.