

Social parasitism  
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Reprinted from ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS, Vol. LXVIII, No. 9, Nov., 1957  
Printed in U. S. A.

**A New Parasitic Ant of the Genus *Monomorium*  
from Alabama, with a Consideration of the  
Status of Genus *Epixenus* Emery**

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The specimen described below was found in a nest of *Monomorium minimum* (Buckley) at Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Although we have only a single example, the characters are so distinct that it is evident that we have here another aberrant inquiline species of the kind now becoming almost a commonplace discovery among the Myrmicinae. It has become the custom to consider parasitic forms of this degree of differentiation from the host species as "new" genera in almost every case found, but we shall give reasons below to show that the designation of new generic names for myrmicine parasites has been a greatly overworked practice, due for critical review.

***Monomorium metoecus* sp. nov.**

Holotype ergatogyne: TL 3.0, HL 0.67, HW 0.54, pronotal W 0.41, WL (alitrunk L.) 0.88, petiolar W 0.35, postpetiolar