**MELILOTUS ALBA**: A NEW HOST OF THE VELVETBEAN CATERPILLAR—(Note). Velvetbean caterpillar, *Anticarsia gemmatalis* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) larvae were first found on *Mellilotus alba* Desr. near Homestead, FL on 5 March 1980. A total of 29 larvae were collected from this new host during March and April, 1980. Subsequently, larvae were collected from *M. alba* during May, 1981. *Mellilotus alba* is a shrubby glabrous annual herb up to 2 m high and is found in wastelands and margins of cultivated fields throughout the US and southern Canada (Long and Lakela, 1971, *A Flora of Tropical Florida*, Univ. Miami Press). It has lush growth during February-May in southern Florida and may play an important role in the development of a migratory *A. gemmatalis* population.

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**TENDING OF DEAD QUEENS BY WORKERS OF SOLENOPSIS INVICTA BUREN (HYMENOPTERA; FORMICIDAE)—(Note).** As part of our normal research activity, we rear and maintain several hundred colonies of *Solenopsis invicta* Buren, the red imported fire ant. If the mother queen or her workers die they are normally discarded on the refuse pile within a few days. However, recently, while conducting laboratory tests with chemicals for toxic baits, we noted that worker ants from some colonies tended their queen for many weeks after she had been killed by exposure to the bait toxicant AC 217300 (tetrahydro-5,5-dimethyl-2(1H)[pyrimidinone (3-[4-[(trifluoromethyl)phenyl][2-[(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethenyl]-2-propenylidene)hydrazone]. This compound was reported (Williams et al. 1980, *J. Econ. Ent.* 73: 798-802) to be selectively toxic to the queen and that in large colonies the queen died within 2 to 4 wks even though thousands of workers survived exposure to the chemical. The queens of these colonies were physogastric and ovispositing at the time of exposure to the bait. In 13 of these colonies the surviving workers maintained the gaster of the queen for 3 to 9 weeks (Fig. 1), but in 4 others the workers quickly discarded the queen. The workers were also observed with the entire queen or the thorax and gaster, but they never maintained only the head or thorax alone or the head and thorax together.

The behavior of workers to the dead queen's gaster was typical of that observed with live queens, i.e., they clustered around the corpse with almost constant grooming and licking of the cuticle. With one exception, efforts to induce the workers to accept a new queen (2 to 4 wks old) were futile as long as they kept the dead queen. New queens were killed just as they would have been if a healthy queen had been present. However, once the body of the dead queen was discarded, a new queen was usually accepted. In 1978 two of our coworkers (A. Glover and B. M. Glancey, personal communica-