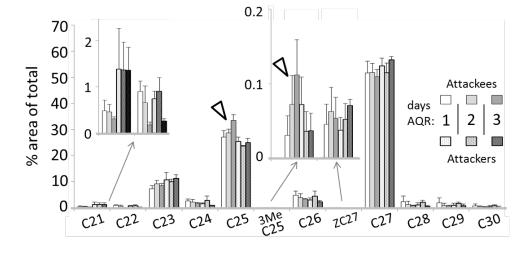
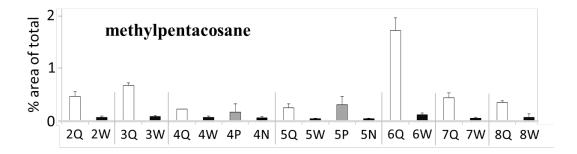


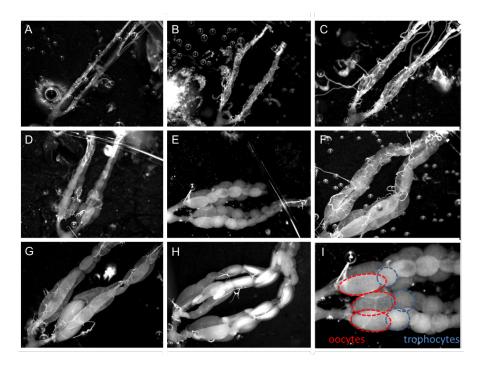
Supplementary Figure 1: Age cues in the cuticular hydrocarbon (CHC) profile of attackees. Discriminant analysis based on CHC compounds of attackees and attackers from Colonies 4, 5 and 8, along with young (cuticular scores 1-3) and old workers (cuticular scores 4-5) from Colony 2. Attackees differ from attackers in the same direction as young females differ from old workers, indicating age as a determinant factor.



Supplementary Figure 2: CHC profile of attackees vs. attackers sampled over the first three days after queen removal (AQR) in Colony 4. White arrowheads point to a perceptible rise of queen-associated compounds (in proportion to other compounds) in only the attackees. Data are shown as mean% ±s.d.



Supplementary Figure 3: Colony by colony representation of methylpentacosane (3MeC25) in *P. micans*. In all colonies examined, the 3MeC25 alkane was proportionally higher in queens (Q) than in workers (W). 3MeC25 was also higher in prospective reproductives (P) than in presumptive workers (N) removed at the same time. Number indicates colony. Data are shown as mean% ±s.d.



bearing no discernible oocytes. The ovarioles of stage B ovaries are irregular and bulbous, comprised of very small (and sometimes likely degenerate) oocytes. Stage C ovaries contain discernible oocytes, but these are not as pronounced as in Stage D ovaries which feature spherical oocytes adjoined to spherical trophocyte chambers of comparable length. Stage E ovaries bear oocytes which take on an oval shape and are perceptibly longer than the adjoining trophocyte chamber. Such elongated oocytes are likely taking in vitellogenin by endocytosis. Vitellogenesis is further evidenced by an opaqueness of the oocytes at this stage. Further development will result in the complete dumping of the trophocyte

Supplementary Figure 4: Scores of ovarian status for P. micans. Stage A ovaries are filamentous,

chamber cytoplasm into the oocyte, marking the onset of Stage F ovaries. Stage G ovaries have 1-3 chorionated (or chorionating) oocytes. Stage H ovaries are queen-like, bearing many eggs. (I) Ovaries from box E showing in detail 3 of 6 basal oocytes (red) and adjoining nurse cell chambers (blue) circled.

			QUEENRIGHT										QUEENLESS			
				All Co	olonies	Colo		ny 1	Colonies 4, 5 &			£ 8	Colonies 4 & 5			5
			Queens		Workers		Newly Emerged		Attackees		Attackers		Prosp. Repro.		Presump. workers	
#	СНС	Ret. Time	N=59		N=129		N=4		N=43		N=32		N=16		N=35	
			m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.	m%	s.d.
1	C21	18.07	0.06	0.02	0.47	0.48	6.03	0.59	0.51	0.20	0.96	0.66	0.18	0.06	0.52	0.68
2	C22	20.83	0.18	0.18	0.56	0.61	2.26	0.15	1.36	0.92	0.90	0.53	0.15	0.04	0.17	0.10
3	C23	23.56	2.25	0.66	7.02	3.95	54.4	5.23	8.38	1.96	9.36	3.85	3.45	0.95	6.56	4.75
4	C24	26.23	0.93	0.27	1.32	0.72	2.15	0.13	2.76	0.95	1.76	0.82	1.26	0.35	0.87	0.42
5	C25	28.92	42.5	4.84	23.7	4.13	22.4	1.66	25.7	3.55	24.2	3.57	33.4	3.70	24.1	4.45
6	3MeC25	30.00	0.97	0.67	0.07	0.05	n.d.	n/a	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.23	0.17	0.03	0.02
7	C26	31.34	5.32	1.14	3.42	1.01	1.90	0.46	4.82	1.47	3.32	0.95	4.48	1.25	3.21	1.28
8	ZC27	33.65	0.51	0.36	0.13	0.05	n.d.	n/a	0.08	0.04	0.08	0.04	0.50	0.50	0.11	0.05
9	C27	33.89	44.6	4.52	57.7	7.72	8.29	2.13	44.9	7.94	52.3	7.78	51.7	3.49	60.4	6.90
10	C28	36.14	0.82	0.73	1.62	1.23	1.08	0.34	2.77	1.85	1.44	0.69	1.90	1.40	1.54	1.61
11	C29	38.42	0.68	0.68	1.59	1.45	0.65	0.30	1.99	1.53	1.08	0.56	1.82	1.25	1.67	1.65
12	C30	40.64	0.52	0.51	0.98	0.83	0.48	0.27	1.48	1.11	0.75	0.42	0.92	0.66	0.78	0.78
13	C31	42.77	0.39	0.39	0.89	1.16	0.19	0.10	C31 & C32 were not detected in all of the above							
14	C32	44.99	0.28	0.26	0.46	0.44	0.12	0.04	females and were therefore excluded							

Supplementary Table 1. Mean percentage (m%) of composition and standard deviation (s.d.) of cuticular hydrocarbon (CHC) components in various types of females of *Polybia micans*. Colony(s) of origin noted on top. Gray rows indicate components which are consistently elevated in queens and prospective reproductives ("Prosp. Repro.") on a queenless nest. n.d. = compound not detected. Retention time in minutes.