

ants of these two genera differs very decidedly. The following are the leading diagnostic characters of the genus *Leptothorax*.

LEPTOTHORAX Mayr.

Worker.—Small, monomorphic. Head longer than broad, and broader than the thorax. Mandibles broad, 4-5-toothed. Maxillary palpi 5-jointed; labial palpi 3-jointed. Clypeus variable in shape, slightly convex or impressed in the middle, its anterior border somewhat rounded, entire or sinuately excised in the middle. Frontal carinae almost straight, diverging very little behind. Antennae 11- or 12-jointed, usually with a distinctly 3-jointed club. Frontal area present. Eyes of moderate size, near the middle of the lateral surface of the head. Ocelli occasionally present, especially in ergatoid or subergatoid individuals. Thorax slender, usually somewhat broader in front, at least above, and narrower behind. Promesonotal suture obsolete; mesoepinotal suture present or absent, the thorax at this region either without any constriction, with a faint or a very decided (subgen. *Dichothorax*) constriction. Epinotum armed with a pair of teeth, or spines of variable development. Petiole with a short peduncle in front and surmounted by a node of variable form, its lower anterior surface armed with a median tooth. Postpetiole nodiform, sometimes more campanulate, unarmed below. Gaster large, broadly elliptical, compressed dorsoventrally, its basal three-fourths formed by the first segment. Sting well developed, at least in many of the species. Legs rather stout, the femora fusiform, somewhat incrassated in the middle, the tibiae thicker toward their distal ends. Spurs of middle and hind legs simple, not pectinate. Integument very hard. In most species the hairs on the body, and in a few also those on the appendages, are short, erect, clavate and under a high magnification finely crenulate. Our species are yellow, brown, red or black, and the majority of them have the head, thorax and pedicel more or less sculptured and in great part opaque. The gaster in all our species is very smooth and shining.

Female.—Somewhat larger and more robust than the worker, or of the same size. Antennae of the same number of joints. Eyes and ocelli moderately prominent. Thorax with its sides subparallel or somewhat bulging in the middle. Mesonotum conspicuously flattened. Epinotal spines shorter and often stouter than in the worker. Basal surface of epinotum nearly horizontal. Petiole and postpetiole like the corresponding segments of the worker, the node of the former often more acute. Gaster like that of the worker, at least its basal two-