

terior corners of the head. Vertex without a pair of short ridges, but each of the inner orbits with a distinct ridge which runs obliquely and mesially and stops half way between the eye and the ridge from the frontal carina of the same side. Antennal scapes somewhat thickened just beyond the middle, reaching a little less than  $\frac{2}{3}$  their length beyond the posterior corners of the head. Thorax in profile with deep mesoepinotal constriction; pro- and mesonotum convex; epinotum with subequal base and declivity, the former slightly convex, the latter sloping and concave. Inferior pronotal spines prominent, with blunt tips; superior spines reduced to angular projections, between which there is a pair of small blunt median protuberances. Mesonotum on each side with two angular projections which are as large as the superior pronotal pair and of similar size and shape. Extreme posterior portion of mesonotum with a small blunt projection just in front of the mesoepinotal constriction. Base of epinotum with four longitudinal ridges, the inner pair of which is the more prominent, diverges somewhat posteriorly and terminates in the spines, which are acute, a little longer than broad at their bases and directed up-

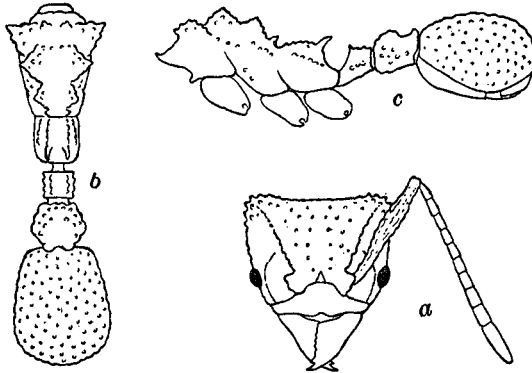


Fig. 2. *Trachymyrmex desertorum* sp. nov. Worker; a, head; b, thorax and abdomen seen from above; c, same seen in profile.

ward, backward and slightly outward. Petiole with a very short, narrow peduncle; its node seen from above as long as broad, rectangular, with four longitudinal ridges; in profile the node is pointed above, with subequal anterior and posterior slopes, the former concave, the latter straight. Postpetiole twice as broad as the petiole, nearly as long as broad, broadest just behind the middle; its posterior border excised in the middle, with a rounded lobe on each side; dorsal surface somewhat impressed behind, so that in profile the upper surface is convex and rounded in front and concave posteriorly. Gaster suboblong, broadest behind the middle, with straight sides in front and without any trace of a median dorsal furrow. Legs moderately long and stout.

Mandibles longitudinally striated, at least their apical portions and the border of the clypeus shining; remainder of body opaque, finely granular, except the legs which are very faintly shining. The various ridges and projections on the head,