

lateral and posterior borders. Eyes very convex, fully half as long as the cheeks. Ocelli minute. Mandibles 7-toothed, with the apical tooth longest and curved. Clypeus convex but not carinate in the middle, flattened and depressed on the sides. Frontal area distinct. Antennæ moderately slender, scapes extending about  $\frac{2}{5}$  their length beyond the posterior border of the head. Thorax much as in the other species of the genus; pronotum as broad as long; mesoëpinotal constriction shallow; epinotum with subequal base and declivity, bluntly angular. Petiole half as broad as the epinotum, cuneate in profile, inclined forward, compressed anteroposteriorly, with flattened posterior and feebly convex anterior surface and blunt border, which, seen from behind, is straight and entire. Gaster and legs of the usual conformation.

Mandibles subopaque, densely and finely striated. Clypeus and head very smooth and shining. Thorax and gaster more opaque, especially on the dorsal surface, finely shagreened.

Hairs and pubescence white, the former short, erect, absent or very sparse on the scapes, moderately abundant on the head, somewhat sparser on the thorax and gaster, short, sparse and reclinate on the tibiæ. Pubescence short and delicate, moderately abundant on the head, thorax, gaster and appendages.

Dark brown; anterior half of head, antennæ, palpi and legs paler; mandibles, anterior border of clypeus and cheeks, tibiæ and tarsi yellowish or pale brown. Mandibular teeth black.

Described from numerous workers taken from several colonies at Yuma, Arizona.

This species differs from *lugubris* in the shape of the head and petiole, from the various forms of *melliger* in its much smaller size and in the inclination and shape of its petiole.

*M. yuma* inhabits small crater nests, 3–4 inches in diameter, in the pebbly desert. The nest entrance is small, often less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in diameter and often surrounded by small twigs and dead leaves. The numerous remains of small insects, frequently seen around the edges of the craters, show that this ant is predatory in its habits. The colonies are quite populous so that they cannot be regarded as incipient colonies of any of the subspecies or varieties of *M. melliger*. At first sight *M. yuma* may be readily mistaken for the small desert form of *Dorymyrmex pyramicus* Roger var. *niger* Pergande.

*M. yuma* var. *flaviceps* var. nov.

*Worker.* Length 2.5–3.5 mm.

Differing from the typical form in color and pubescence and in having the head more rectangular and broader in front. The brown coloration of the body and appendages is paler and the yellow color on the head extends back over the gula