

Reddish testaceous; gaster and legs yellow; borders of mandibles, anterior border of head and occipital groove black.

*Worker.* Length 3-3.5 mm.

Head subrectangular, as broad as long, with nearly straight posterior border and very feebly convex sides, with the eyes just in front of the middle. Mandibles with oblique blades furnished with two large apical and several smaller basal teeth. Clypeus convex, with entire, rounded anterior border. Antennæ similar to those of the soldier, but with the scapes extending a little beyond the posterior corners of the head. Thorax differing from that of the soldier in being more slender, with the mesonotum and base of epinotum long and rather straight in profile and the spines reduced to minute, erect teeth. Petiolar node compressed, sharp and transverse as in the soldier, but the border, seen from behind, is straight and entire. Postpetiole about twice as broad as the petiole, rounded in front above, without lateral conules, the sides rather straight behind, in profile feebly convex above. Gaster a little smaller than the head.

Shining; mandibles somewhat opaque; their bases and the cheeks longitudinally rugulose and punctate; sides of meso- and epinotum irregularly rugulose-punctate.

Hairs white, long, of unequal length, moderately abundant, erect on the body, on the legs and scapes shorter and more oblique.

Black; mandibles brownish yellow, with black teeth; clypeus, antennæ, tarsi, funiculi, articulations of legs and posterior borders of gastric segments brown.

Described from several soldiers and workers taken from a number of colonies in the desert at Hereford and Benson (alt. 3600 ft.), in Southern Arizona. This species is very closely related to *Ph. macclendoni* Wheeler, but both the soldier and worker are larger, the former is monomorphic, has the frontal area distinct and the rugosity not extending so far back on the head and the petiole and postpetiole are of a different shape when seen from above, the latter being larger, rounded above and with blunter sides, the thorax is more extensively sculptured, etc. The workers of the two species are more similar, but besides the difference in size, that of *macclendoni* is brown, with darker head and gaster.

The nests of *Ph. militicida* are small craters, 3-5 inches in diameter. When I found them at Hereford and Benson during November 1910, they were covered with masses of chaff, showing that the ant is a true harvester. Only workers could be obtained by the most diligent excavation of the nests, but among the chaff on nearly all the craters the workers had deposited numerous heads and dismembered bodies of soldiers. Mr. W. M. Mann, who collected at Hereford during August took living soldiers in the nests and from his specimens the foregoing description of the soldier is drawn. It appears, therefore, that all the individuals of this caste are regularly killed off by the workers on the approach of winter, probably after they have broken open all the hard seeds collected by the workers. Such a slaughter of the members of a large caste during a season when their activities are no longer required, when they would simply be a burden on the colony by con-