

*Formica fusca* L. var. *algida* var. nov.

*Worker.* Length 3.5–5.5 mm.

Head not longer than broad, except in the smallest individuals, slightly narrowed in front, with rather convex sides. Epinotum distinctly and often sharply angulate in profile. Petiole convex in front, flattened behind, with transverse, feebly rounded, entire border, precisely as in the vars. *neorufibarbis* and *gelida*. Upper surface of head and thorax much more opaque and more coarsely shagreened than in these varieties. Frontal area shining. Gaster much more shining than in the varieties mentioned, though sharply shagreened, its hairs short, blunt and sparse, its pubescence much sparser and distinctly longer and coarser, except on the anterior portion of the first gastric segment, where it is very fine and dense as in *gelida* and *neorufibarbis*. Pubescence on head, especially on its sides, long and dilute. Color variable; dark reddish brown; cheeks, mandibles and clypeus paler; gaster and posterodorsal portions of head and in many specimens also the thorax and petiole, black. Thorax, however, usually paler than the head and in many Newfoundland specimens pale brownish red, as in *neorufibarbis*, but with a dark cloud on the pro- and mesonotum as in *gelida*. In these specimens the pale color extends also to the petiole and base of the first gastric segment. Other specimens have the thorax dark brown, with paler and more reddish sutures. Legs reddish brown, usually with the coxae, femora and tibiae dark brown or blackish, except at the articulations. Antennae reddish brown, funiculi infuscated, except at the base.

*Female.* Length 6.5–6.8 mm.

Resembling the worker in pilosity and pubescence, except that the latter on the gaster is even more dilute and longer and the surface of this region is more delicately shagreened and more shining. The petiole is broader and more compressed antero-posteriorly, with more acute border, which is entire and often slightly produced upward in the middle. The color is similar to that of the lightest workers, the thorax, petiole, legs and anterior and ventral portions of the first gastric segment being clear brownish red. Pronotum with brownish anterior and posterior borders, pleurae more or less clouded with brown; mesonotum with three more or less sharply defined, longitudinal dark brown or blackish blotches; metanotum and posterior border of scutellum more or less infuscated. Wings colorless, with brown veins and apterostigma.

Maine: Kittery Point, in Sphagnum bog (R. Thaxter), type locality.

New Hampshire: Lafayette, 4,000 feet in Sphagnum bog (J. H. Emerton); Mt. Washington, 3,840 feet (W. Reiff).

Massachusetts: Petersham, in Sphagnum bog (Wheeler).

New York: Bedford, nesting in dead leaf of *Sarracenia*, in Sphagnum bog (Wheeler).

Michigan: Porcupine Mountains and Isle Royale (O. McCreary).

Ontario: Kenora (J. C. Bradley).

Quebec: Saguenay R. (Geo. Engelhardt); Anticosti I., Mingan