



Fig. 12. *Pheidole comata* Fr. Smith (HN-148): A, major, head in full-face view; B, same, head in profile; C, alitrunk in profile.

processes. Clypeus with a median longitudinal carina, with anterior margin hardly emarginate medially. Eye situated around 1/3 distance of head; distance between mandibular insertion and anterior margin of eye 1.5-1.8 times as long as maximal diameter of eye. Frontal carina and antennal scrobe present only around antennal insertion. Antenna without conspicuous club; scape extending backward to 7/10-3/4 distance of head. Masticatory margin of mandible with apical and preapical teeth, and a denticle in front of basal angle. Promesonotal dome with a distinct prominence on its posterior declivity (Fig. 12C); the prominence in anterior view not or very weakly concave medially. Mesopleuron with an indistinct transverse impression. Propodeal spine corniform, 2-3 times as long as diameter of propodeal spiracle. Petiole in profile cuneiform, 1.1-1.2 times as long as postpetiole, with ill-defined node of which apex is in posterior view weakly or very weakly concave. Postpetiole in dorsal view subpentagonal, 2.3-2.4 times as broad as petiole.

Frons and gena longitudinally rugose; vertex and dorsal and dorsolateral faces of occipital lobe rugoso-reticulate, with enclosures weakly punctured and weakly shining; lateral face of occipital lobe densely rugose and dull; promesonotal dome in dorsal view transversely rugose, with smooth and shining interspaces; mesopleuron and lateral face of propodeum weakly rugose with interspaces punctured very weakly, or lower part of mesopleuron largely smooth and shining; petiole (excluding smooth and shining anterodorsal face), postpetiole and first gastral tergite rugoso-punctured and dull. Head densely bearing standing hairs over the surface; outer face of mandible sparsely covered with appressed hairs, which are 0.03-0.10 mm in length and shorter than distance between piligerous punctures; submarginal zone of masticatory margin of mandible with longer decumbent hairs; dorsum of promesonotal dome in front of the prominence on its posterior declivity bearing ca. 20 or more standing hairs. Body dark reddish-brown to blackish-brown; flagella and legs lighter than alitrunk.

**Minor** Measurements and indices (n=10): TL 4.1-5.1 mm, HL 1.23-1.44 mm, HW 0.75-0.93 mm, SL 1.88-2.21 mm, AL 1.73-2.01 mm, FL 2.33-2.83 mm, CI 61-65, SI 229-270, FI 289-337. At present it is impossible to separate this species from *P. longipes* (Fr. Smith) by any morphological characteristics in the minor.

**Recognition** This species is closely related to *P. longipes* (Fr. Smith) and *P. montana* Eguchi, and all these are peculiar among Indo-Chinese and Indo-Malayan congeners in the following characteristics: antenna of both the subcastes lacking conspicuous club; posterior part of head of the minor forming elongate neck. The major of *P. comata* is distinguished from that of *P. longipes* by the