

several evanescent rugulae on its dorsum; promesonotum smooth and shining; mesopleuron and lateral face of propodeum slightly punctured at least partly; petiole and postpetiole largely smooth and shining; gaster smooth and shining. Body brown with lighter alitrunk (or lateral face of alitrunk); antennae and legs sometimes a little lighter than alitrunk.

Variation Median processes on hypostoma frequently poorly developed in majors collected from Sumatra.

Recognition *P. elisae* is closely related to *P. sauberi* Forel, *P. sarawakana* Forel and *P. tandjongensis* Forel. They are recognised among Indo-Chinese and Indo-Malayan congeners by a combination of the following characteristics: petiolar node highly prominent dorsally in both the subcastes; lower part of mesopleuron margined dorsally in both the subcastes; hypostoma of the major with a pair of median processes. Three of the four species, i.e., *P. elisae*, *P. sauberi* and *P. sarawakana*, are sympatric in Poring and Danum Valley, Borneo. In *P. sauberi* majors dorsum of head is completely covered with longitudinal rugulae (Fig. 14A); and in *P. sarawakana* eye is smaller in both the subcastes (4-5 ommatidia present on longest axis of eye in the major, and four ommatidia in the minor). The difference between *P. elisae* and *P. sarawakana* in the number of ommatidia is, however, less distinct in Sumatra.

Distribution Southern Malay Peninsula, Borneo, Sumatra, Engano and Java.

Bionomics This species inhabits well-developed forests in lowlands and hill areas, and usually nests in rotting wood.

14. *Pheidole fantasia* Chapman (Fig. 15)

Pheidole fantasia Chapman, 1963: 255-258, major, minor and queen (MCZ, Type 31796). Type locality: Horns of Negros (3600 ft), Philippine Is. Eleven syntypes (3 majors, 7 minors and 1 queen) were examined, of which one major is designated as the **lectotype**.

Specimens examined BORNEO. Sabah, Malaysia: Poring, 900 m alt., 2 majors and 4 minors (09Q20B4), TK; Tawau Hills Park, 1 minor (Hand collecting sample: HC-3), SKY, 1996.

Major Measurements and indices (n=2): TL 1.9 mm, HL 0.93-0.98 mm, HW 0.84-0.86 mm, SL 0.40-0.41 mm, FL 0.48-0.49 mm, CI 88-90, SI 46-49, FI 57. Head in full-face view with almost parallel sides; posterior margin of head in full-face view emarginate triangularly (Fig. 15A); head in profile weakly impressed on vertex (Fig. 15B). Hypostoma bearing three median processes of which lateral two are well developed (Fig. 15C). Clypeus without a median longitudinal carina, with anterior margin of clypeus almost straight; lateral portion of clypeus produced into a low, blunt horn. Eye situated at about 1/3 distance of head (as measured from the mid-point of a transverse line spanning the anteriormost and posteriormost projecting points, respectively (cf. Fig. 2A)); distance between mandibular insertion and anterior margin of eye 1.7-1.8 times as long as maximal diameter of eye. Frontal carina horizontal, extending backward to 2/3-7/10 distance of head. Antennal scrobe overhung by frontal carina. Frontal lobe exceptionally developed, suberect (Fig. 15A, B). Antenna with 3-segmented club; scape extending backward to about midlength of head; terminal segment ca. 1.2 times as long as preceding two segments together. Masticatory margin of mandible with apical and preapical teeth, and two indistinct denticles in front of basal angle. Promesonotum forming a high dome, without a distinct prominence on its posterior declivity (Fig. 15E); each dorsolateral portion of the dome produced outward (Fig. 15D). Mesopleuron with an inconspicuous transverse impression.