

1.3-1.4 times as broad as petiolar node.

Clypeus irregularly rugose, with punctured and dull enclosures; remainder of head, and alitrunk and lateral face of petiole punctured and dull; dorsum of petiole, and postpetiole and gaster smooth and shining. Body dark reddish-brown; antennae light brown; legs only a little lighter than alitrunk, but ivory-white from apical part of femur to apex of tarsus.

Variation The type material of *P. fantasia* is very similar to the specimens from Borneo, but the following differences are noticed: in the type material promesonotum of the minor with a pair of very low tubercles dorsolaterally; propodeal spines of the major much longer; petiolar node, postpetiole and gaster of the minor also ivory-white; anterior part of frons (between frontal lobes) of the major rugose, with punctured interspaces; head of the major shorter (CI 94-96). However, I tentatively treat the Bornean population as *P. fantasia* until additional specimens from various localities become available.

Recognition This species is easily recognised among Bornean *Pheidole* in its peculiar shape of head of the major (Fig. 15A, B), and ivory-white tibiae and tarsi in both the subcastes. The only difference between this and the closest undescribed relative, *P. sp. eg-90* (Padang, W. Sumatra, FI97-451), is unicolored legs in the latter.

Distribution Negros and Borneo.

Bionomics This species seems to inhabit well-developed lowland forests.

15. *Pheidole fervens* Fr. Smith (Fig. 16)

Pheidole fervens Fr. Smith, 1858b: 176, major and minor (BMNH). Type locality: Singapore. Three syntypes (1 major and 2 minors) were examined.

Pheidole javana Mayr, 1867: 98, major and minor. Type locality: Java. Junior synonym of *P. fervens*: Wilson & Taylor, 1967: 45. Type material not examined by me.

Pheidole javana var. *desucta* Wheeler, 1929a: 2, major, minor and queen (MCZ, cotype-20659). Type locality: Back Liang, China. Subspecies of *P. fervens*: Bolton, 1995b. Seven syntypes (2 majors, 2 minors and 3 queens) were examined of which one major was designated as the **lectotype**. **New synonymy**.

Pheidole (Pheidole) oceanica var. *nigriscapa* Santschi, 1928: 48, major and minor. Type locality: SAMOA. Junior synonym of *P. fervens*: Wilson & Taylor, 1967: 45. Type material not examined by me.

Pheidole oceanica subsp. *nigriscapa* var. *tahitiana* Santschi, in Cheesman & Crawley, 1928: 516, minor. Type locality: Tahiti. Unavailable name, material referred to *P. fervens*: Wilson & Taylor, 1967: 45. Type material not examined by me.

Subspecies enumerated in Bolton, 1995b: nominal plus *desucta*, see above; *dharmasana* Forel, 1902: 184, 198, India; *dolenda* Forel, 1912a: 60, Taiwan; *jacobsoni* Forel, 1911b: 203, Java; *jubilans*, 1911b: 202, Java; *pectinata* Stitz, 1912: 504, Seram I. (Indonesia); *protea* Forel, 1912d: 55, Sumatra; *soror* Santschi, 1937b: 369, Taiwan (for these forms excluding *desucta* type material was not examined by me).

Specimens examined BORNEO. Sabah, Malaysia: Tawau Hills Park, 9 majors and 20 minors (Eg96-BOR-009, 021). Sarawak, Malaysia: Niah N. P., 1 major and 6 minors (GC), SKY, 1993. E. Kalimantan, Indonesia: Kutai N. P., 1 minor (GC), E. Suzuki leg., 1986. NANSEI IS., Japan. Iriomote-jima I., Yaeyama Is., 3 majors, 3 minors and 1 queen (Colony: 96-JPN-001, 003), KE, 1996. MYEIK'S ARCHIPELAGO, Myanmar. Cat & Kitten I., 4 majors and 16 minors, Ecoswiss coll., 1999 (MZLS). PALAWAN, Philippines. Pupok, Napsan, 18 minors (GC), H. Fukuda leg., 1995. SUMATRA, Indonesia. Maninjau, W. Sumatra, 15 majors and 20 minors, SNS; Sako, nr. Tapan, W. Sumatra, 3 majors and 9 minors, SNS; Sukarami, nr. Padang, W. Sumatra, 2 majors and 5 minors (9/28a), MK, 1999; Ulu Gadut, nr. Padang, W. Sumatra, 2 minors, SNS. MENTAWAI IS., Indonesia. Pulau Sipora, 5 minors, SNS. JAVA, Indonesia: Kebun Raya, Bogor, 1 major and 2 minors (153), MK, 1998.

Major Measurements and indices (n=5): TL 2.8-3.4 mm, HL 1.26-1.37 mm, HW 1.23-1.32 mm,