



**Fig. 31.** *Pheidole montana* Eguchi (Eg98-BOR-847): A, major, head in full-face view; B, same, head in profile; C, same, alitrunk in profile; D, minor, alitrunk and waist in profile.

weakly, or smooth and shining; gaster smooth and shining. Dorsal face of head (including occipital lobe) and lateral face of occipital lobe bearing standing hairs (Fig. 31A); outer face of mandible sparsely covered with appressed to decumbent hairs, which are 0.05-0.08 mm in length and shorter than distance between piligerous punctures; submarginal zone of masticatory margin of mandible with a row of longer decumbent hairs; in profile dorsum of promesonotal dome in front of the prominence on its posterior declivity bearing 10-20 standing hairs (Fig. 31C). Body yellowish-brown, brown, or reddish-brown; legs lighter than alitrunk.

**Minor** Measurements and indices ( $n=162$ ): TL 3.5-4.8 mm, HL 0.92-1.42 mm, HW 0.62-0.99 mm, SL 1.28-1.95 mm, AL 1.27-1.93 mm, FL 1.57-2.51 mm, CI 64-73, SI 172-227, FI 226-280. Head in full-face view narrowed and prolonged behind eyes toward occipital carina which forms a distinct flange. Clypeus with a weak longitudinal median carina, with anterior margin slightly convex or truncate medially. Eye situated at  $4/9-1/2$  distance of head (as measured from anterior margin of clypeus to occipital carina); distance between mandibular insertion and anterior margin of eye 1.1-1.3 times as long as maximal diameter of eye. Antenna without conspicuous club, but 8th segment 1.3-1.4 times as long as 7th. Promesonotal dome with a distinct prominence on its posterior declivity (Fig. 31D). Mesopleuron without a distinct transverse impression. Propodeal spine 4-5 times as long as diameter of propodeal spiracle (Fig. 31D). Petiole in profile cuneiform, with ill-defined node, 0.8-0.9 times as long as postpetiole. Postpetiole 2.2-2.3 times as broad as petiole, in dorsal view distinctly longer than broad, gently narrowed forward in its anterior  $2/3$ .

Head including clypeus and promesonotum smooth and shining; remainder of alitrunk largely smooth (or very weakly punctured) and shining; lateral faces of petiole and postpetiole smooth and shining, or very weakly punctured; dorsa of petiole and postpetiole, and gaster smooth and shining. Body light brown to brown, with a little darker head and gaster.

**Recognition** This species is closely related to *P. comata* Fr. Smith and *P. longipes* (Fr. Smith), and all these are peculiar among Indo-Chinese and Indo-Malayan congeners in the characteristics noted under *P. comata*. Diagnostic characteristics of this species which separate it from *P. longipes* are: propodeal spine horn-like, more than 3.5 times as long as diameter of propodeal spiracle in the major (Fig. 31C) and more than 4 times in the minor (Fig. 31D); in profile dorsum of promesonotal dome in