



Fig. 59. Distribution of *P. aristotelis* Forel.

originally described under *Aphaenogaster* by Wheeler (1927a), then transferred to *Pheidole* by Brown (1967). The group is characterised by a 4-segmented antennal club, but its monophyly has not yet been established. It is Indo-Chinese and Indo-Malayan in distribution, but interestingly no species occurs in Borneo. Examinations of available specimens, including type materials, of the above-mentioned forms, excluding *P. emmae* (of which the type material has apparently been lost), suggest that *P. bluntschlii* is an atypical member in the group and characterised by a combination of the following characteristics: anterior margin of clypeus of the minor emarginate medially in full-face view; hypostoma of the major unarmed medially; low subpetiolar process present in the major; radial cell of the male wing completely closed. *P. bluntschlii* is very similar to species of the *P. quinata* group in its general features, except in the segmentation of antennal club and the condition of processes on hypostoma of the major. The male of *P. sabahna*, belonging to the *P. quinata* group, also has a completely closed radial cell (cf. Eguchi, 2000), a condition not common in Asian species of *Pheidole* as far as I know. Thus there is a possibility that the *P. quinata* group is phylogenetically closest to *P. bluntschlii*, and is the Bornean representative (Fig. 58) of the *P. smythiesii* group in a wide sense. Anyway, a careful phylogenetic reconstruction is required for members of the *P. smythiesii* group and *P. quinata* group (and also *P. granulata* group, namely, "espèces Américaines" of "*Ceratopheidole*" (Emery, 1922)) prior to detailed biogeographical analysis.

4) Inhabitants of Indo-Malayan rainforests

4.1) Indo-Malayan (represented by *P. aristotelis* (Fig. 59), *P. butteli*, *P. clypeocornis* sp. nov., *P. deltea* sp. nov., *P. elisae*, *P. hortensis*, *P. sarawakana* and *P. sauberi*)

These species occur in the southern Malay Peninsula (with the exception of *P. deltea* sp. nov.), Borneo, Sumatra, Java, and in one case the Philippines (*P. sauberi*). They inhabit well-developed forests from lowlands to hill areas.