

ally have a large portion of the dorsum of the head smooth and shining and always have at least some striae on both sides of this shiny region. Also these 4 species are much darker than *L. coleenae*. There are no striae on the head of *L. colleenae*, except on the malar area, which would eliminate confusion with any of species such as *L. carinatus* or *L. furunculus*. It is also much lighter in color than these species. The well-developed ventral flange on the anterior peduncle of the petiole also separates it from most of the other similar *Leptothorax*. This species can be easily distinguished from the light colored *L. bestelmeyeri* and *L. cokendolpheri*, which have heads with fine striolae, and which are partially smooth and shining. The eye of *L. bestelmeyeri* is much larger than the eye of *L. coleenae* (compare Figs. 88 & 102). It could be confused with *L. liebi* and *L. andersoni*, in which the heads are also punctate. Both of these species have blunt petiolar nodes, which would allow separation of these species from *L. coleenae*.

Biology: The holotype was collected in a pitfall trap on 6 July 1984. The habitat was a creosotebush (*Larrea tridentata*) desert bajada. The specimen was collected along the Long Term Ecological Site Control Transect, a few meters west of the diagonal dirt road which crosses the transect in the creosotebush zone. Despite extensive pitfall trapping in the area and numerous collecting trips made in all seasons and during both day and night, by numerous individuals, over several years, only the single specimen was collected. This is one of the 7 species which occur in typical Chihuahuan Desert vegetation (the others are *L. andersoni*, *L. bestelmeyeri*, *L. cokendolpheri*, *L. neomexicanus*, *L. liebi*, *L. bristoli*). It may be nocturnal as it is light colored and has large black eyes as other nocturnal desert ants.

*Leptothorax (Myrafant) curvispinosus* Mayr

Figs. 73, 76, 103, & 104; Map 14

*Leptothorax curvispinosus* Mayr, 1866:508-509, Fig. 13 worker, North America (without specific locality); Mayr, 1886:453 female; Wheeler, 1903a:239-241, Plate 12, Fig. 10; *Leptothorax (Myrafant) curvispinosus*: Smith, 1950:30

*Stenammina gallarum* Patten 1879:126-127 (Mayr, 1886:453)

Species complex: *schaumii*

Diagnosis: This is a small yellow ant with an 11-segmented antenna, which is very common in eastern USA. The very long, inwardly curved, closely spaced propodeal spines make this species immediately recognizable. The top and side of the mesosoma are covered with coarse rugae. The head is completely and coarsely punctate.

Distribution: USA: Arizona (Smith, 1979), North Dakota, South