

Fig. 106. Top of propodeum, petiole, postpetiole and gaster of a cotype worker of *Leptothorax davis*.

spines are about half the length of the distance between their tips. The top of the node of the petiole is truncate in profile, and as seen from above, the node is surrounded by a carina on all sides.

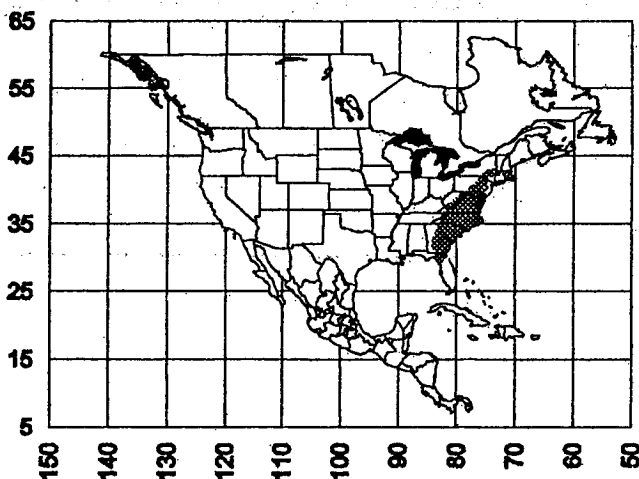
Distribution: USA: Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida (Putnam Co. Welake Exp. Stn., 5 mi. SE

Melrose) (Map 15).

Type series: AMNH, MCZC, USNM [seen].

Discussion: *Leptothorax davis* differs in a number of characteristics from *L. texanus* and should be regarded as a separate species. The postpetiole is wider than it is in *L. texanus*. The head is punctate, with the central region covered with longitudinal striae, not nearly smooth and shining as in *L. texanus*. The node of the petiole is definitely truncate as seen in profile, and is not really truncate in *L. texanus*. This species is found in eastern USA (Map 15), whereas *L. texanus* is from the Midwest to the west of the United States (Map 53).

Biology: This species was found in oak-rosemary xeric hummocks (J. Trager pers. comm.) and has been swept from turkey oak scrub (Chandler and Reeves, pers. comm.). It often nests in the driest habitats in an area (Cole, 1952; Van Pelt, 1958; Carter, 1962). The type



Map 15. Distribution of *Leptothorax davis*.

series was collected from an area with pure, white sand, forming galleries a few centimeters in length (Wheeler, 1905), and is found most commonly in sandy soils. It slowly forages on the surface in search of small insects. The largest nest reported by Cole (1952) had 18 workers and a single queen. This