

Fig. 125. Mesosoma of a worker of *Leptothorax longispinosus* (WV).

Species complex: *longispinosus*

Diagnosis: This is a small, brown species with an 11-segmented antenna and with very well developed propodeal spines. The spines are nearly twice the length of the distance between their bases, and are in about the same plane as the remainder of the mesosoma (Fig.

125). The head is nearly mostly smooth and glossy, but with fine striolae.

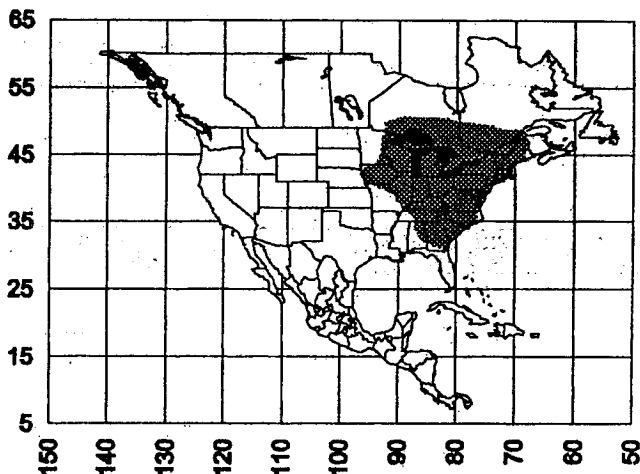
Distribution: USA: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Ohio, Maine, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Washington D. C., West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia; Canada: Quebec, Ontario (Map 23).

Type series: None 65
in this country
(Creighton, 1950),
and the types could
not be located in
Roger's collection
(Museum für
Naturkunde
Zentralinstitut der
Humboldt-
Universität zu Ber-
lin) and probably no
longer exist.

Discussion: The
long propodeal
spines easily sepa-
rate this species

from most of the others in the subgenus. It can be separated from *L. ambiguus* and *L. curvispinosus*, which also have long propodeal spines, by the nearly glossy head and by the much darker color. The propodeal spines are nearly in the same plane as the mesosoma, which separates it from *L. tuscaloosae* (in which the spines are pointed somewhat upwards). The top of the mesosoma is roughly sculptured, whereas the top of the mesosoma of *L. tuscaloosae* is smooth.

Biology: This species nests in plant cavities such as hollow stems,



Map 23. Distribution of *Leptothorax longispinosus*.