

from *L. andersoni*, *L. punct-atissimus*, and *L. rugosus*, which all have the dorsum of the head roughly sculptured. It can be separated from *L. cokendolpheri* and *L. carinatus*, in which the dorsum of the head is at least partially smooth and shining, by the lack of a well-defined medial carina on the clypeus, which is well defined in both of the latter species.

Biology: Holotype collected in forest leaf litter.

***Leptothorax (Myrafant) oxynodis* new species**

Figs. 63 & 146; Map 36

Species complex: *nitens*

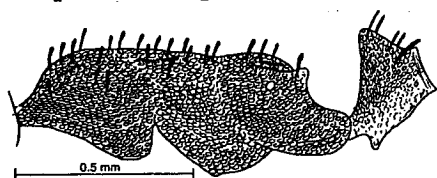
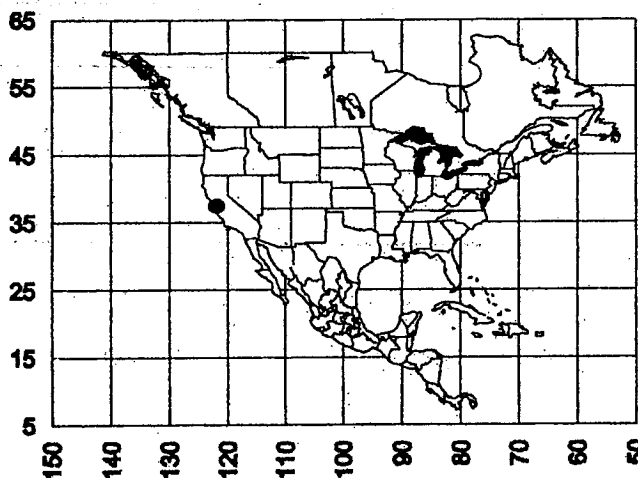


Fig. 146. Mesosoma and petiole of the holotype worker of *Leptothorax oxynodis*.

Diagnosis: This species is distinct and easily recognized as it has an 11-segmented antenna, and the node of the petiole is sharply acute (Fig. 146). Additionally, the head is finely rugose, the mesosoma is densely punctate and the propodeal spines are tiny, blunt angles. The area on the dorsum of the mesosoma

at the mesopropodeal suture is depressed below the remainder of the mesosoma. The mesosoma has abundant blunt-tipped hairs (nearly spatulate), those on petiole are finer (Fig. 146).

Distribution: Known only from the type locality in Santa Cruz Co., California (Map 36).



Map 36. Distribution of *Leptothorax oxynodis*.

Description

Worker measurement (mm): HL 0.76, HW 0.64, SL 0.52, EL 0.17, WL 0.83, PW 0.17, PL 0.15, PPW 0.24, PPL 0.20. Indices: CI 84, SI 68, PI 113, PPI 120.

Anterior border of clypeus straight, clypeus with well developed medial carina and several lateral carinae; ver-