

Fig. 147. Mesosoma and petiole of a cotype female of *Leptothorax peninsularis*.

postpetiole and gaster are missing, but Wheeler (1914) states that the gaster is smooth and shining. The rough sculpture and the shape of the petiole (long peduncle, quadrate node) would probably separate this species from all others in the New World. It would also be easily to recognize as it is presently one of the only 2 species known from the Baja peninsula (The other is *L. andrei*, undoubtedly others occur there).

**Distribution:** Known only from type locality, Magdalena Bay, Baja California Sur (Map 37).

**Type series:** Two cotype females (CASC, MCZC) [seen].

**Discussion:** This species is known only from the female and is difficult to place in any subgenus as it is somewhat intermediate between the subgenus *Myrafant* and what was previously considered the subgenus *Macromischa* (synonymized by Snelling, 1986). It is not closely related to *Nesomyrmex* (= *Goniothorax*) as Wheeler (1934) speculated, as there are no spines on the petiole. Characters in common with *Macromischa* would include the structure of the clypeus, which is somewhat bulging dorsoventrally and is covered with striae and the petiole has a long peduncle. On the other hand, the peduncle is not as elongate as in most *Macromischa* and is not that different from some of the *Myrafant*, such as *L. silvestrii* and *L. punctaticeps*, in which the clypei are similar. It is also possible that it is a member of the subgenus *Dichothorax*. It can be easily separated from *L. pergandei* as it is much more roughly sculptured. The entire head is rugose with punctures

segments and the scapes extend slightly past the occipital corners. The sculpture of the mesosoma is very similar to that of the head, the propodeal spines are large, well developed with thick bases. The petiole has a long peduncle with a square node (Fig. 147). The

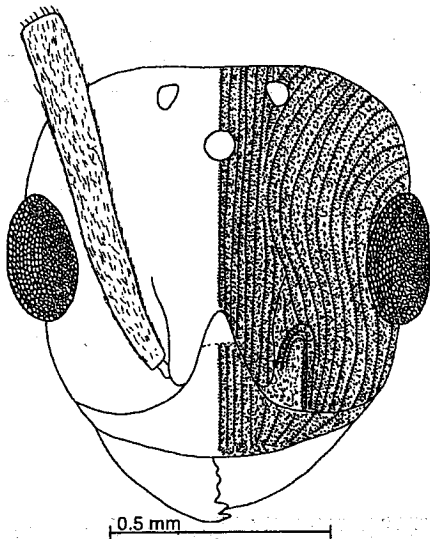


Fig. 148. Head of a cotype female of *Leptothorax peninsularis*. The sculpture on only the right side of the figure is shown.