

character, a key character of his classification, has been long recognized and discussed its evolution since Brown and Wilson (1959). Therefore, the genera *Smithistruma*, *Kyidris* and *Epitrius*, reported in Korea, are now junior synonyms of *Pyramica*, and all of their constituent species are moved to *Pyramica*. There are now two genera and five species belonging to the tribe Dacetini in Korea. *Pyramica* retains the primitive static pressure mode of predation. It is a morphologically diverse genus. All of the members of this genus share the suite of mandibular characters described above. *Strumigenys* is another lineage that has evolved kinetic mandibles. Five species recorded in the Dacetini are as follows: *Strumigenys lewisi* Cameron by Kim and Kim (1982), *Pyramica japonica* (Ito) by Kim *et al.* (1991), *P. mutica* Brown and *P. hexamerus* Brown by Kim *et al.* (1992), and *P. incerta* Brown by Choi and Lee (1995).

Abbreviations used in this paper are as follows: GG, Gyeonggi-do; GW, Gangwon-do; CB, Chungcheongbuk-do; CN, Chungcheongnam-do; JB, Jeonlabuk-do; JN, Jeonlanam-do; GB, Gyeongsangbuk-do; GN, Gyeongsangnam-do; JJ, Jeju-do. Romanization of Korean geographic names follows the rule set by the National Academy of the Korean Language in 2000.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The specimens examined in this study have been collected by the first author for the last six years, or loaned from the private collection of the second author. In general, it is difficult to find dacetine ants by usual field search. However, after shifting litter and surface soil and applying extraction methods using Winkler bags or Berlese funnels, abundant samples are sometimes found. The specimens collected were saved as either dry-mounted or alcohol-preserved.

To observe morphological characters, specimens were dehydrated through ethanol and fixed by 100% amyl acetate. They were then dried by a critical point drier (Hitachi Hcp-2, Japan), gold-coated, and observed using a scanning electron microscope (Hitachi S-2460N).

SYSTEMATICS

Tribe Dacetini Forel, 1892 비늘개미족

Dacetonini Forel, 1892, Mitt. Schweiz. Entomol. Ges. 8: 344 [as genus group]. Type genus: *Daceton* Perty, 1833: 136.

Dacetonii: Forel, 1893, Ann. Soc. Entomol. Belg. 37: 164 [as tribe of Myrmicinae].

Dacetii: Emery, 1895: 770 [emended spelling].

Dacetini: Emery, 1914: 13; Forel, 1917: 246 [emended spelling].

Key to the genera of the tribe Dacetini in Korea

1. Mandibles short, triangular or nearly so, and with teeth along their entire inner margin *Pyramica*
- Mandibles thin, elongate and with only 2–3 teeth at their extreme tips *Strumigenys*