

A SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF THE ANT GENUS *PROCERATIUM* ROGER FROM CHINA^{*} (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)

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Abstract Four species of the ant genus *Proceratium* Roger from China are recorded in this paper: *P. itoi* (Forel) from Zhejiang, Taiwan and Hunan Provinces, *P. zhaoi* Xu, sp. nov. from Yunnan Province, *P. japonicum* Santschi from Taiwan Province and *P. longigaster* Karavaiev from Yunnan Province. *P. longigaster* Karavaiev is a new record species to China, a description based on the Chinese specimen is provided for the species. A key to the 4 known Chinese species based on worker caste is presented.

Key words Hymenoptera, Formicidae, *Proceratium*, Systematics.

The ant genus *Proceratium* Roger is World wide in distribution. Brown (1958) and Lattke (1994) had revisionary studies on the genus respectively. Thirty species were recorded in the world (Bolton, 1995), among them 9 species were known in Southeast Asia. Terayama (1985) described the first Chinese species of the genus, *P. formosicola*, from Taiwan Province. Later, Onoyama (1991) considered *P. formosicola* Terayama as a junior synonym of *P. japonicum* Santschi. Terayama (1990) reported the distribution of *P. itoi* (Forel) in Taiwan Province. Wu *et al.* (1995) and Tang *et al.* (1995) reported the distribution of *P. itoi* (Forel) in mainland of China separately. In this study, a new species and a new record species from China are reported. Up to date, 4 species of the genus are known in China.

Standard measurements and indices are as defined in Bolton (1975): TL = Total length, HL = Head length, HW = Head width, CI = Cephalic index, SL = Scape length, SI = Scape index, PW = Pronotal width, AL = Alitrunk length, ED = Maximum diameter of eye, ML = Mandibular length, PL = Petiole length, DPW = Dorsal petiole width, PH = Petiole height. All measurements are expressed in mm.

The type specimens are deposited in The Insect Collection, Southwest Forestry College, Kunming, Yunnan Province, China.

Proceratium Roger

Proceratium Roger, 1863. Berlin. Entomol. Zeitsch., 7: 171.

Type species: *Proceratium silaceum*, by monotypy.

Key to species of *Proceratium* of China based on worker caste

1. Anterior margin of clypeus with a triangular projection in the middle. Petiolar node low and inclined backward 2
Anterior margin of clypeus almost straight, without a triangular projection in the middle. Petiolar node high and erect 3
2. In full-face view occipital margin weakly convex. Frontal carina with laterally expended frontal lobe which partially covered the antennal socket. Mandible with 3 teeth. Subpetiolar process being a small prominent (Figs. 1-2) (China: Zhejiang, Taiwan and Hunan Provinces; Japan) *P. itoi* (Forel)

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