



Fig. 12: Distribution of *Meranoplus curvispina*.

denticle. Postpetiole in profile nodiform, distinctly lower than petiole, all surfaces reticulate. Petiole and postpetiole with similar long, posteriorly directed hairs.

First gastral tergite distinctly striate, at rear microreticulate, with similar posteriorly directed pilosity.

Colour: brown with head slightly darker than remainder of body; specimens from "Tweed R." and Leura usually have the head, alitrunk, petiole and postpetiole of a darker brown, and the gaster markedly brighter.

Description of queen: Head dark brown, shape in dorsal view as in worker; clypeus somewhat pronounced, medially concave, in particular laterally rugulose, or whole clypeus transversely rugulose, anterior clypeal margin entire, laterally produced into short stout denticles. Ventrolateral border of head less distinct than in *M. curvispina*. Eyes of medium size EYE: 0.45 ± 0.02 [0.43, 0.47], with 16 - 18 ommatidia in the longest row (REL: 0.26 ± 0.01 [0.25, 0.27]); OD: 0.29 ± 0.01 [0.25, 0.27]. Pronotum entirely reticulate, lateral sides uniformly sinuate. Mesonotum longitudinally rugose to rugose-reticulate, anterior margin roundly inserted into rear of pronotum (Fig. 6). Propodeal spines distinctly depressed, apically rounded. First gastral tergum distinctly striate anteriorly, posteriorly with delicate microreticulum. Head, anterior mesosoma, petiole, postpetiole and appendages irregularly darker brown with brighter patches, gaster ferrugineous.