



Fig. 2. Alate queen of *Leptothorax palustris* n. sp.: lateral habitus view; frontal view of head. Length of ant: 5.0 mm

gle at anterior border; node of petiole with a blunt anterior angle, no posterior angle; postpetiole in dorsal view shining anteriorly, minutely roughened posteriorly; 1.8 times as wide as petiole; postpetiole as long as wide when measured from side to side at midlength, and along midline from convex anterior to convex posterior borders. Gaster: shining, without sculpture. Dorsum of head and body with sparse, flattened, parallel-sided hairs, erect on head and mesosoma; slightly retrorse on petiole, postpetiole, and gaster. Color: translucent dark yellow, dorsum of head brown, middle and hind femora with wide postmedian bands of brownish yellow.

Diagnosis of Queen

Queens of some North American *Leptothorax* are unknown or undescribed; this diagnosis includes only species from southeastern North America. Distinguished from these by the following combination of character states (Fig. 2): mesopleuron shining, with only a few fine carinae near edges (unlike *L. smithi* Baroni Urbani, *schaumii* Roger; *bradleyi* Wheeler); propodeal spines long, slender (unlike *pergandei* Emery, *bradleyi*); propleuron with conspicuous irregular carinae (unlike *tuscaloosae* Wilson, *torrei* (Aguayo), *pergandei*); petiole in profile triangular with a sin-

gle conspicuous dorsal angle, not rounded dorsally (as in *allardycei* (Mann)), or truncate and biangulate (as in *longispinosus* Roger and *texanus* Wheeler); maximum length of eye slightly shorter than malar space (unlike *curvispinosus* Mayr).

Description of Paratype Dealate Queen from Nest of Holotype

Methods as for holotype. Measurements in mm: total length: 4.96; head length: 0.82; head width: 0.77; length of mesosoma: 1.25; length of petiole: 0.37; length of postpetiole: 0.35; length of gaster (segments except first strongly retracted): 1.40. Head: dorsally with well-separated longitudinal irregular carinae with scattered cross-carinae, interstices shining; clypeus shining, with longitudinal carinae: one median carina, a sublateral and lateral on each side, right side with a submedian carina, absent on the left side; malar space 1.2 times maximum length of eye; antennae with 12 joints. Mesosoma: pronotum with a few strong carinae forming an irregular network anteriorly, becoming weak and longitudinal posteriorly, interstices shining; mesonotum with dense, longitudinal, slightly irregular carinae, interspaces shining; mesopleuron shining, smooth, with small irregular carinae along dorsal, ventral, posterior borders, transverse mesopleural suture strongly developed, slightly foveolate; propodeum with strong longitudinal carinae, propodeal spines elongate, slender, acute. Petiole in profile with a single, strong, dorsal angle, not truncate, ventrally concave, with a small, sharp angle at anterior border. Postpetiole dorsally minutely roughened, 1.50 times as wide as long. Gaster shining, without sculpture. Pilosity of head and body as in worker. Color: translucent dark yellow, dorsum of head and apex of gaster brown.

Diagnosis of Male

Males of some North American *Leptothorax* are unknown or undescribed. Even in the Southeast there are two species, *smithi* and *tuscaloosae*, whose males are unknown, at least to us. Male *palustris* are distinguished from other known southeastern species by the following character states: node of petiole low and rounded, hardly more declivitous posteriorly than anteriorly (unlike *texanus*, whose declivity is high and abruptly declivitous posteriorly); color black (unlike *torrei*, *curvispinosus*, *allardycei*); mesonotum not conspicuously bulbous anteriorly and overhanging posterior edge of pronotum (as in *pergandei*); antennae with a four-segmented antennal club (unlike *bradleyi*, which has no antennal club; we suspect that *smithi*, whose workers resemble those of *bradleyi* in many ways, has similar males); mesonotum lacking the conspicuous parapsidal furrows found in *longispinosus*.