

Notes. *Lasius spathepus* is the most peculiar species of the genus, especially for the characters of its queens (see above and Figs 45–51). Workers are similar to those of *L. orientalis* by their distinctly flattened scape, but well differ from the latter by the much thinner, narrowing at the top petiolar scale (seen in profile, compare Figs 39, 40 and 30, 31). On the other hand, the shape of petiolar scale recalls *L. nipponensis*, but in the latter the scape is not flattened.

Wheeler (1910) described *L. spathepus* from the single queen from Japan (he described workers and males in 1928). This queen has a so peculiar shape of legs and head that Wheeler discussed the possibility of the existence of two different morphs of queens in that *Lasius* species. Further investigations showed that *L. spathepus* has unusual queens only, rather than normal ones (Wilson 1955; Yamauchi 1978; Kupyanskaya 1989, 1990; Imai et al. 2003).

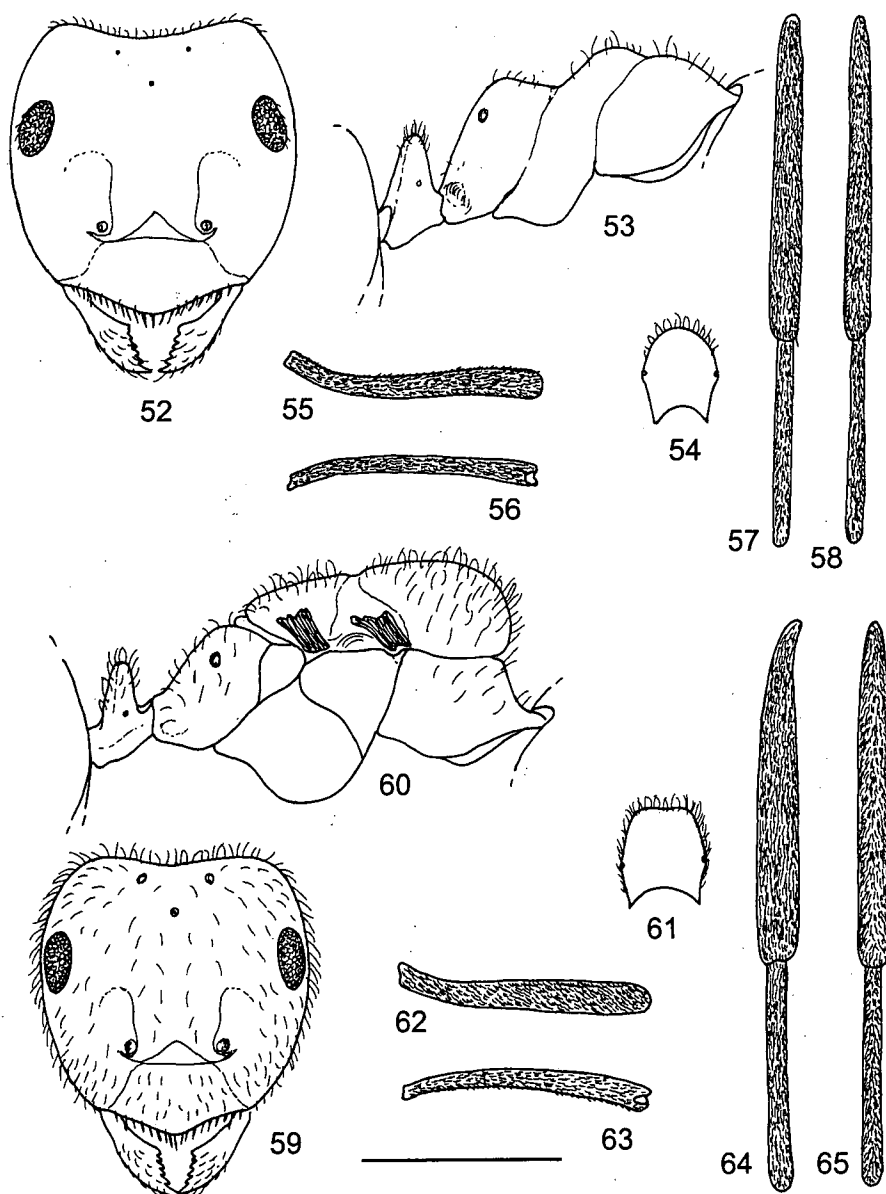
Distribution. Southern part of Russian Far East (known only from one locality: Primorsky Region, Anisimovka), Korean Peninsula, Japan (all four main Islands).

***Lasius morisitai* Yamauchi, 1978**
(Figs 66–79)

Lasius morisitai Yamauchi 1978: 176, w, q, m, Japan; Kupyanskaya 1989: 787; 1990: 232; Bolton 1995: 224; Imai et al. 2003: 60.

Material examined. About 20 workers, 2 queens from the Russian Far East, North Korea and Japan (IZK, MIZ, ZMMU, BPI, JUK).

Diagnosis of workers and queens. Workers: petiolar scale (seen in profile) relatively thin, though not flattened at the top, approximately inversely V-shaped; when seen in front or from behind, it is only slightly narrowing to the dorsal crest; head shorter than broad ($CI \geq 1.04$), with convex sides, gradually and slightly narrowing anteriorly, and with distinctly emarginate occipital margin; scape, mid and hind tibiae not flattened, elliptical in cross-section; ratio of min/max diameters of the scape > 0.7 ; scape and legs with decumbent



Figures 52–65. *Lasius fuji* sp. nov. (52–58, worker, holotype; 59–65, queen, paratype); (52, 59) head, frontal view; (53, 60) alitrunk and petiole, in profile; (54, 61) petiolar scale, frontal view; (55, 62) scape, dorsal view; (56, 63) same, lateral view; (57, 64) hind tibia and first tarsal joint, lateral view; (58, 65) same, dorsal view. Scale bar = 1 mm.

pilosity only, without standing hairs; promesonotal dorsum and occipital margin with abundant, quite short standing hairs;

Queens: petiolar scale (seen in profile) is relatively thin, though not flattens at the top; head with convex sides, gradually and slightly narrowing anteriorly, and with shallowly emarginate occipital margin; scape, mid and hind tibiae not flattened, elliptical in cross-section; ratio of min/max diameters of the scape > 0.7 ; legs and scape with dense decumbent pubescence only; head, alitrunk and gaster with very sparse short standing hairs, and with extremely short and sparse decumbent pubescence, appears shiny.