

**A Description of a New Species of the Genus *Discothyrea* ROGER
from the Ryukyus, Japan (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)**

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Abstract. A new species of the genus *Discothyrea*, *D. kamiteta*, is described and illustrated from Okinawa-jima, the Ryukyus.

The ant genus *Discothyrea* ROGER is widely distributed in temperate and tropical zones of the globe, except for the Palearctic Region and Madagascar. There are 27 described species (BROWN, 1958a; BOLTON, 1995). *Discothyrea* species live in the ground layer of evergreen forests etc., and nest in decaying fallen trees, decaying stumps, or directly in the soil. They are said to eat arthropod eggs (BROWN, 1958b; MASUKO, 1981). Two species have been known to occur in Japan: one is named and the other is unnamed which is described herein.

Genus *Discothyrea* ROGER

[Japanese name: Daruma-ari-zoku]

Discothyrea ROGER, 1863, Ber. Ent. Zeit., 7: 176.

Type species: *Discothyrea testacea* ROGER, 1863.

Prodiscothyrea WHEELER, 1916, Trans. R. Soc. S. Aust., 60: 33.

Type species: *Prodiscothyrea velutina* WHEELER, 1916 [Synonymized by Brown, 1958a.]

Pseudosysphincta ARNOLD, 1916, Ann. S. Afr., Mus., 14: 161.

Type species: *Pseudosysphincta poweri* ARNOLD, 1916 [Synonymized by Brown, 1958a.]

Pseudosphincta; WHEELER, 1922. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 45: 645, 762 (laspus).

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