

Fig. 1: Mesosoma, petiole and postpetiole of the holotype worker of *Pachycondyla schoedli* sp.n., lateral view.

Worker: Moderate sized (total length 10 mm), black, mostly shiny ant, with some weak bluish or greenish reflections; mandibles with approximately 10 teeth; anterior border of clypeus broadly convex, but concave medially; preocular carina absent, but with small, raised area located near posterior edge of clypeus; head 2.3 mm long, 2.2 mm wide; sides of head broadly convex, posterior margin concave; eyes relatively small (maximum diameter 0.5 mm), located about one maximum diameter from anterior margin of head; scape (length 2.5 mm) extends about two funicular segments past posterior lateral corner of head. Pronotal shoulder with slightly developed margin, metanotal suture depressed below level of remainder of mesosoma, breaks sculpture on dorsum; petiole moderately thickened when viewed in profile with poorly developed spiracular horns, straight anterior face, and broadly rounded posterior face, which meets anterior face near anterior edge; posterior lateral edges of petiole sharp; subpetiolar process poorly developed, consists of tiny, ventrally directed anterior angle and thick posterior process, which gradually diminishes in width. Anterior surface of postpetiole rounded between two faces, arolia weakly developed. Lobes of metasternal process triangular-shaped and widely spaced, similar to condition in *P. aenescens* and *P. fauveli*.

Erect hairs abundant on mandibles and clypeus (longest hair 0.6 mm in length), absent on shaft of scape, except at apex; few scattered hairs present on dorsal and ventral surfaces of head, but are generally absent on sides and posterior margin, dorsum of mesosoma has few, scattered, short (0.2 mm), erect hairs, as does petiole, and gaster. Coxae and femora have few erect hairs, tibiae without erect hairs, except at region near spur. Golden, appressed pubescence present on most surfaces, but not especially dense, does not hide sculpturing.

Most surfaces moderately to strongly shining, but with punctures, including head, dorsum of mesosoma, sides of mesosoma, petiole, and gaster. Moderate, bluish reflections present, especially on head and mesosoma.

Gyne and male: Unknown.

Comparison: The worker of this species is very similar to the worker of *P. carbonaria*. The two species can be separated, as *P. schoedli* lacks the extensive bluish reflections of *P. carbonaria*, and is less sculptured, specifically the upper half of the mesopleuron (anepisternum) mostly lacks the obliquely horizontal striae, which are present in *P. carbonaria*. *Pachycondyla schoedli* is also similar to *P. aenescens*, but can be easily separated as the mesopleuron is mostly smooth and glossy, not roughly sculptured and dull as in *P. aenescens*. The extensive, and golden, appressed pubescence could cause confusion with the worker of *P. eleonora*. It can be easily separated by the straight anterior face of the petiole, which is convex and somewhat angulate anteriorly in *P. eleonora*.

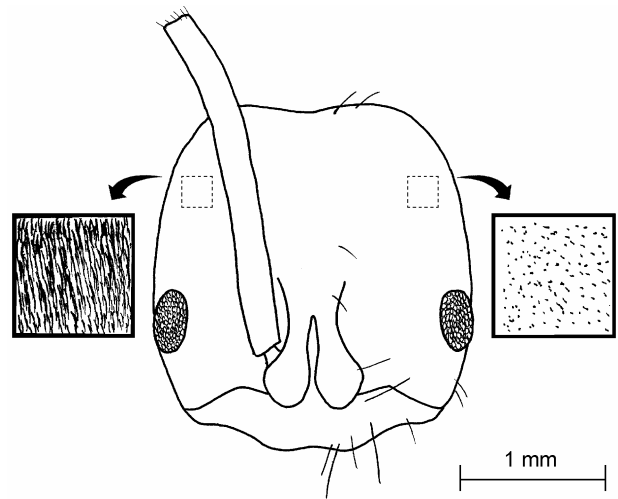


Fig. 2: Head of the holotype worker of *Pachycondyla schoedli* sp.n., frontal view. The appressed pubescence is shown on the right side (left side of figure), the sculpture on the left side of the head.

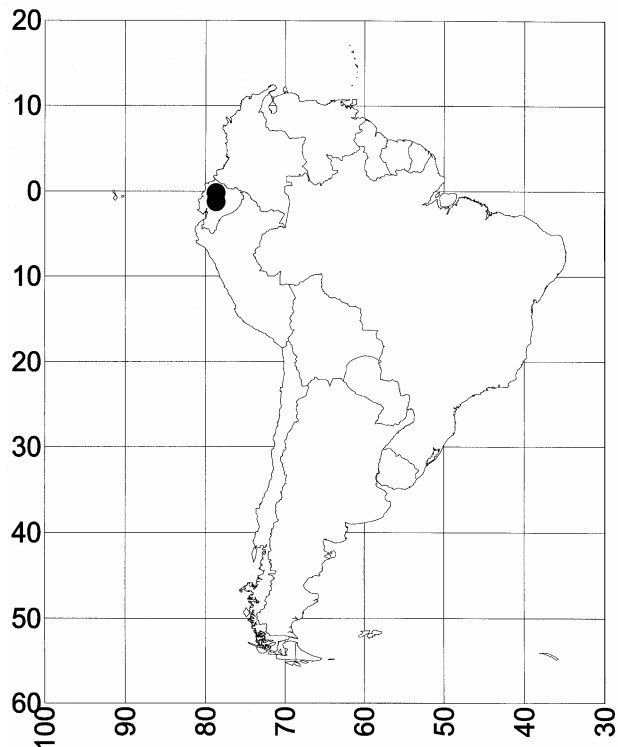


Fig. 3: Distribution of *Pachycondyla schoedli* sp.n.

Distribution: Ecuador: Pichincha (type locality); Cotopaxi, Otonga (0° 25' S, 79° 00' W), 19.XI.1994, leg. S. Salazar, and 24.VI.2004, leg. D. Donoso (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador).

Habitat: Montane forest at 1978 - 2150 m.

Biology: The type series was extracted from forest litter. Individual foragers from Cotopaxi were collected in June and November.

Etymology: Named in honor of the memory of Stefan Schödl of the Naturhistorisches Museum in Wien, Vienna, Austria, friend and myrmecologist, recognizing all of his assistance to our work.