

In the pages that follow key characters and descriptions of species are based on worker or soldier forms whichever may be relevant. In text, abbreviations used to differentiate different forms of ants, are : M-Male; F-Female; W-Workers; S-Soldiers. While describing the species, the following abbreviations are used : TL - Total length of the specimen; HL - Length of head measured from the anterior border of clypeus; HW - Width of head measured excluding the eyes; CI - Cephalic Index; SL - Length of antennal scape; SI - Scape Index; PW - Width of pronotum and Th L - Diagonal length of thorax measured in lateral view, DE - Diameter of eye. All measurements are in millimeters and magnification of drawings, wherever given, is mentioned in parenthesis.

*Method of Study* : It is necessary to relax the specimen fully before its study at high magnification. The method applied here for study is reasonably rapid and does not cause excessive damage or discolouration to the specimen.

Equipment and chemicals required are (1) saturated ammonia solution, (2) glycerine, (3) Barber's or Ward's fluid and (4) dissecting equipments.

The specimen is removed from the pin and placed in ammonia in a rubber stoppered vial of suitable size. Depending on the size of the specimen, it will be flexible and workable in 3-30 minutes. The specimen is removed to Barber's or Ward's fluid and examined at suitable magnification; the head is grasped with forceps and the mandible well separated; the labio-maxillary complex can now be removed and finally the labrum is removed; one antenna is dissected off and all the parts except mandible are removed to glycerine in a cavity slide. One mandible is air dried and mounted in the point with the specimen; the mandible is mounted with "trulleum" in an exposed position. The parts in glycerine are stored after examination in a genitalia vial in the absolute minimum of glycerine. The vial is mounted on the same pin through the cork end of vial - at an angle of 45°, to prevent the glycerine running upto the cork. Wings of male and female if any, are mounted in canada balsum on slides under coverslips. If the wings of dried specimen are undistorted, they may be wetted with xylene and mounted immediately. The distorted wings are relaxed, dried and then mounted (Ettershank, 1966). Morphological characters are illustrated in figs. 1-5

## TAXA INCORPORATED IN THE TEXT

### FAMILY : FORMICIDAE

#### I. Subfamily : DORYLINAE Forel

##### 1. Genus *Aenictus* Schuckard

1. *Aenictus binghami* Forel, 1901
2. *Aenictus brevicornis* (Mayr, 1878)
3. *Aenictus fergusonii* Forel, 1900
4. *Aenictus laeviceps* Smith, 1856
5. *Aenictus longi* Forel, 1901