

Polyrhachis, Brown, In *Tropical forest ecosystems in Africa and South America* : 161-185.

Diagnostic characters : o. Head more or less orbicular; thorax and or pedicel armed with spines or teeth.

Key to the species of *Polyrhachis*

1. Thorax wholly unarmed, pedicel with 4 subequal spines or teeth *rastellata*
- Thorax armed with spines or teeth 2
2. Thorax more or less rounded above, the sides not margined along their whole length 3
- Thorax more or less flat above, the sides margined along their whole length 12
3. Pronotum with a short tooth on each side; mesonotum and metanotum unarmed *laevissima*
- Pronotum with short tooth or spine on each side; metanotum with a spine on each side 4
4. Pronotum with a short tooth *ceylonensis*
- Pronotum with a spine on each side 5
5. Pubescence soft, erect and abundant *furcata*
- Pubescence short, silky and recumbent, or sparse and erect, or entirely absent 6
6. Basal portion of metanotum distinctly margined laterally 7
- Basal portion of metanotum not margined laterally 8
7. Pro-and metanotal spines subequal *abdominalis*
- Metanotal spines nearly twice the length of pronotal spines *mutata*
8. Pubescence spars, almost entirely wanting *armata*
- Pubescence dense, silky and recumbent 9
9. Abdomen red *bicolor*
- Abdomen black 10
10. Pubescence silvery *tibialis*
- Pubescence bronzy yellow or golden 11
11. Two small teeth between spines of node of pedicel *dives*
- Three small teeth between spines of node of pedicel *affinis*