

## ***Polyrhachis (Myrmhopla) maryatiae*, a new species of the *armata*-group from Borneo (Hymenoptera: Formicidae, Formicinae)**

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**Abstract.** *Polyrhachis (Myrmhopla) maryatiae*, a new species of the *armata*-group from Borneo, is described and illustrated. Characters are provided to distinguish it from the closely allied *P. armata* (Le Guillou 1842), a widespread Southeast Asian species. *Polyrhachis maryatiae* is rare in collections and probably nests high in the canopy of rainforest trees.

**Keywords:** Formicidae, *Polyrhachis (Myrmhopla)*, *armata*-group, Borneo, taxonomy, new species

### INTRODUCTION

*Polyrhachis armata* (Le Guillou, 1842) is a very widespread and distinctive south-east Asian species of the subgenus *Myrmhopla* Forel of the genus *Polyrhachis* Fr. Smith. My recent work on the taxonomy of the *Polyrhachis* ants of Borneo revealed a new species of *Myrmhopla* very similar in appearance to *P. armata* that is also known from the island. This species is described below and placed in the *armata* species-group of the subgenus (see Dorow 1995).

### METHODS

Photographs of specimens were taken with an Olympus SZX12 stereomicroscope and Olympus DP70 digital camera. Images were then processed using Helicon Focus (Mac OSX version) and Adobe Photoshop CS2 (Adobe Systems Inc., USA) software. Photographs of the new species are of the holotype. *P. armata* is represented by the images of specimens compared with the syntypes of *P. pandarus* Fr. Smith, 1857 and *P. defensa* Fr. Smith, 1857 (see discussion for explanation). Standard measurements and indices: TL = Total Length (the necessarily composite

measurement of the outstretched length of the entire ant measured in profile); HL = Head Length (the maximum measurable length of the head in perfect full face view, measured from the anterior-most point of the clypeal border or teeth, to the posterior-most point of the occipital margin); HW = Head Width (width of the head in perfect full face view, measured immediately in front of the eyes); CI = Cephalic Index (HW x 100/HL); SL = Scape Length (excluding the condyle); SI = Scape Index (SL x 100/HW); PW = Pronotal Width (greatest measurable width of the pronotal dorsum, excluding the spines); MTL = Metathoracic Tibial Length (maximum measurable length of the tibia of the hind leg). Measurements were taken using a Zeiss SR stereomicroscope with an eyepiece graticule calibrated against a stage micrometer. All measurements are expressed in millimetres (mm).

Abbreviations used for specimen data are: BM = The Natural History Museum, London; c. = about (Latin *circa*); Mt = Mount; RJK = R.J. Kohout; w = worker/s;

Abbreviations of institutions (with names of cooperating curators): ANIC = Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO Division of Entomology, Canberra, ACT, Australia (Drs S.O. Shattuck, R.W.