

We describe here a new genus of ants, characterized by several unusual morphological characters, possibly representing reductions, and discuss its possible affinities with other myrmicine genera. We base the description on material assigned to one species, collected both in Cerrado *sensu stricto* and in a montane rocky scrubland.

Material and methods

The terms for external morphology and surface sculpturing follow Bolton (1994, 2000) and Harris (1979). Terms for larvae morphology follow Wheeler & Wheeler (1976). Terms for wing venation and sting apparatus follow Brown & Nutting (1950) and Kugler (1978). The reproductive female is here called “gyne” (gynes for the plural) as a neologism in the English language (Feitosa & Brandão, 2008), as suggested by Wheeler (1908) and De Andrade & Baroni Urbani (1999). Entomological collections are referred to by the following acronyms (Brandão, 2000):

BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, UK.
CASC	California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, CA, USA.
CPDC	Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau, Itabuna, BA, Brazil.
ICNC	Instituto de Ciencias Naturales de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia.
MZSP	Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.
USNM	National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA.

We recorded a number of standard morphometric characters and indices. Head measurements were taken with the head in full mesosoma in dorsal view, with the anterior clypeal margin and the posterior border of the head in the same focal plane. We consider ant heads to be prognathous, so the clypeus is anterior and the frontal area is dorsal. Measurements were made with a micrometer and recorded to the nearest 0.001mm. All measurements are given in millimeters, and the abbreviations used are:

HL	Head length. The maximum length of head capsule excluding the mandible, measured in full face view, in a straight line from the midpoint of the anterior clypeal margin to the midpoint of the vertexal margin.
HW	Head width. The maximum width of the head capsule, measured in full face view, at a median transverse line that touches the superior margins of the compound eyes.
ML	Mandible length. In full face view taken with the mandibles in closed position, the distance from the anteriormost portion of head to apex of closed mandibles.
SL	Antennal scape length. The chord length of the antennal scape, excluding the basal condyle and its peduncle.
EL	Eye length. Maximum diameter of compound eye, in lateral view.
PRW	Pronotum width. In dorsal view, the maximum pronotum width.
WL	Mesosoma length (Weber length). In lateral view, the distance between the anterior margin of the pronotum, exclusive of the collar, to the posterior margin of the metapleural bulla.
FL	Metafemur length. In posterior view, measured along the longitudinal axis from the apex to the junction with the trochanter.
PL	Petiole length. In lateral view, the axial distance from the dorsal corner of the posterior peduncle to the nearest edge of the propodeal lobe.
PPL	Postpetiole length. In lateral view, the axial distance from base of node in front to the tip of posterior peduncle.
PW	Petiole width. Maximum transverse distance across the node in dorsal view.
PPW	Postpetiole width. Maximum transverse distance across the postpetiole in dorsal view.