



**FIGURE 4.** SEM images of *Tropidomyrmex elianae* **gen. & sp. n.** paratype gyne. A, detail of eye in lateral view; B, pretarsal claws of left hind leg; C, detail of subpostpetiolar process in ventral view (P: petiole, PP: postpetiole, G: gaster); D, detail of the declivous face of propodeum in dorsal view.

**Larvae.** Profile pheidoloid, although the head does not protrude ventrally as much as in *Pheidole* larvae. Head subcircular; irregular, very reduced mandibles, apices do not meet, edentate; prothorax and abdomen relatively short, no protuberances. Body pilosity sparse and formed by smooth unbranched and short anchor-tipped hairs.

**Etymology.** The generic epithet refers to the keels under the female postpetiole; from Greek *tropidos* (τροπιδος) = keel, which, by virtue of being double (Fig. 4C), clearly differentiate these ants from all others, as far as we know.