

Gyne and male.—Unknown.

Etymology.—This species is named in honor of Roy Snelling to acknowledge his numerous contributions to the taxonomy of ants, bees, and wasps. He will live on through the solid foundation he provided for ant taxonomy and through the thousands of specimens that he left behind for myrmecologists to ponder over for many years to come.

Biology.—*Strumigenys royi* was collected from an upright, living tree trunk in a small dirt tunnel (likely made by termites) that ran up the side of the tree.

Comments.—This large species is easily distinguished from any other species in the genus *Strumigenys* (*sensu* Bolton 2000) by lacking the spongiform tissue on the ventral margin of the waist segments (petiole and postpetiole) and lacking a spongiform pad on the first gastral sternite,

by having the apical fork of the mandibles with an intercalary denticle that arises from the dorsal base of apicoventral tooth, by having antennal funicular segments II and III, when combined, almost as long as funicular segment IV (shared with *S. fairchildi* Brown), by having a minute denticle close to the apicodorsal tooth (similar in *S. lanuginosa* Wheeler), and by having marked body sculpture. Due to this combination of characters it is difficult to place this species in any of the species groups given by Bolton (2000).

Strumigenys royi differs from *S. idiogenes* Bolton, to which it keys out in Bolton's (2000) key, as the latter possesses: a larger and conspicuous lobe on ventral margin of postpetiole, a narrow spongiform pad on the base of first gastral sternite, asymmetrical dentition on the mandibles, and a pair of narrow spines on the propodeum.

MODIFIED VERSION OF KEY IN BOLTON (2000)

Strumigenys royi will key out to *S. idiogenes* in Bolton's (2000) "key to Neotropical-Nearctic *Strumigenys* species." The key for the species of *Strumigenys* can be modified as below to include *S. royi*. Numbering of couplets follows Bolton (2000).

- 4. Mandibles without intercalary teeth or denticles that arise between apicodorsal and apicoventral teeth of apical fork, nor arise from dorsal base of apicoventral tooth couplet 5 of Bolton (2000)
- Mandible with 1 or 2 intercalary teeth or denticles that arise between apicodorsal and apicoventral teeth of apical fork, or arise from dorsal base of apicoventral tooth couplet 10 of Bolton (2000)
- 10. Mandibles without, or with only one, preapical tooth or denticle couplet 11 of Bolton (2000)
- Mandible with 2 preapical teeth or denticles couplet 15 of Bolton (2000)
- 11. Preapical dentition consisting of single tooth on one or both mandibles; preapical tooth conspicuously dentiform and located close to apicodorsal tooth 12
- Preapical dentition absent from both mandibles or single minute denticle present; if the latter denticle located close to midlength, not near apicodorsal tooth 14
- 12. First gastral tergite very densely clothed with long fine flagellate hairs. Dorsolateral margin of head with 2 freely laterally projecting long flagellate hairs, one at level of eye, other apicoscrobial *lanuginosa*
- First gastral tergite with stout curved hairs that are remiform or apically spatulate or simple erect standing hairs. Dorsolateral margin of head without projecting flagellate hairs or with single hair, in apicoscrobial position 13
- 13. Scape strongly dorsoventrally flattened and very broad; in full-face view maximum width of scape greater than maximum width of mandible. First gastral tergite