

Notes

Tetramorium zonacaciae seems to be widely distributed in East Africa but is also known from one collection event from Cameroon. Nonetheless, it appears to be relatively rare considering that only few specimens are known from each locality. It differs conspicuously from all other species of the complex in having thick, blunt, and dorso-ventrally flattened hairs that are usually appressed to decumbent. Not considering this key feature it can be set morphologically relatively near *T. edouardi*.

Material examined

CAMEROON: Nsoum, leg. G. Terron; **KENYA:** Butere / Mumias District, Ekero, 00° 19' 25.9" N, 34° 30' 39.6" E, 1337m, VIII.2008, leg. G. Fischer; Bungoma District, Nzoia, 00° 34' 31.7" N, 34° 39' 35.4" E, ca. 1600m, 30.VII.2007, leg. F. Hita Garcia; Kakamega District, Ikuywa, 00° 11' 43.47" N, 34° 56' 58" E, ca. 1600m, VI.2008, leg. F. Hita Garcia; Kakamega Forest, Isecheno village, 00° 14' 22.9" N, 34° 51' 21" E, ca. 1600m, 17.VII.2007, leg. F. Hita Garcia; Kakamega Forest, Malava, 00° 28' 00.5" N, 34° 51' 47" E, ca. . 1650m, VI.-VIII.2004, leg. F. Hita Garcia; Kakamega Forest, Salazar, 00° 19' 36" N, 34° 52' 14.6" E, ca. . 1650m, 17.VIII.2007, leg. M. Peters; Kakamega Forest, Udo's Camp, 00° 21' 08" N, 34° 51' 53" E, ca. 1650m, 02.VII.2008, leg. G. Fischer; Kiambu nr. Limuru, 2250m, 1.XI.1977, leg. V. Mahnert & J.-L. Perret; **RWANDA:** Astrida, 2350m, 11.XII.1957, leg.E.S. Ross & R.E. Leech; **SUDAN:** Equatoria, leg. N.A. Weber; Imatong Mts, 2160m, 25.VII.1939, leg. N.A. Weber; **TANZANIA:** West Usambara Mountains, 43° 43' S, 38° 17' E, 14.V.1996, leg. H.G. Robertson; **UGANDA:** Fort Portal, 1948, leg. N.A. Weber; Mt. Elgon, 7.VIII.1934, leg. J. Ford.

Tetramorium muralti species complex

Tetramorium akengense (Wheeler, W.M., 1922) comb. et stat. n.

(Figures 9A, 49, 50, 51)

Xiphomyrmex occidentalis subsp. *akengensis* Wheeler, W.M. 1922:194. Syntype workers, D.R. CONGO, Akengi, X.1913, leg. H.O Lang (MCZ, USNM) [examined]. [Synonymy with *T. occidentale* by Bolton, 1980:229]. [Wheeler (1922) states in the original description that the type series was collected by Lang & Chapin, and Bolton (1980) provides the same collecting data. However, the labels of the syntypes in MCZ and of three specimens from the same series in BMNH show H.O. Lang as single collector and provide a collection date not given by Wheeler (1922) nor Bolton (1980).]

Diagnosis

Tetramorium akengense is straightforwardly recognizable in the *T. muralti* complex with the following character combination: anterior clypeal margin medially impressed; petiolar node squamiform but relatively thick, nearly high nodiform in profile (DPeI 188–196, LPeI 47–50); propodeal spines moderate (PSLI 20–21); postpetiole distinctly wider than petiole (PPI 119–129).

Description

HL 0.672–0.722 (0.702); HW 0.656–0.678 (0.662); SL 0.422–0.450 (0.437); EL 0.128–0.150 (0.144); PW 0.483–0.506 (0.492); WL 0.756–0.800 (0.778); PSL 0.133–0.144 (0.142); PTL 0.128–0.139 (0.133); PTH 0.272–0.283 (0.277); PTW 0.250–0.261 (0.257); PPL 0.189–0.200 (0.193); PPH 0.267–0.278 (0.273); PPW 0.311–0.322 (0.316); CI 92–98 (94); SI 64–68 (66); OI 19–23 (22); PSLI 20–21 (20); PeNI 50–53 (52); LPeI 47–50 (48); DPeI 188–196 (193); PpNI 63–67 (64); LPpI 68–73 (71); DPpI 160–168 (164); PPI 119–129 (123) (9 measured).