

Notes

Considering the available material, the distribution range of *T. intermedium* seems to be restricted to Ghana only. The new species shows an extraordinary character combination for the *T. muralti* complex. Within this complex it is the only species with fully longitudinally rugose head and mesosoma although this character is more typical of the *T. edouardi* and *T. weitzeckeri* complexes. Another character that divides *T. intermedium* from the remainder of the *T. muralti* complex is the moderately sized antennal scape (SI 74–81) that is distinctly longer than in all other *T. muralti* complex species that all possess short scapes (SI 63–73). This character is also more representative for the other 2 species complexes. A third important character is the shape of the petiolar node which is thickly squamiform (DPeI 179–212, LPeI 41–45), and not far from being high nodiform, typical for the *T. edouardi* complex. Only *T. akengense* shows a similarly thick petiole but this species cannot be confused with *T. intermedium* because of its reduced sculpturation. Nonetheless, *T. intermedium* is considered to belong to the *T. muralti* complex because it shares the key diagnostic character, the well-developed antennal scrobe with distinct and sharp margin all around. Taking into consideration the description of *T. intermedium* it shares more important characters with the *T. muralti* complex than with both other complexes.

Etymology

The new species is, as noted above, quite unusual in its character combination, and, although a clear member of the *T. muralti* complex, shows some tendencies towards the other two species complexes. The species epithet accounts for this intermediate position.

Material examined

GHANA: Aiyemla Forest Reserve, Kade, 6.X.1992, leg. R. Belshaw; Atewa Forest Reserve, nr. Kibi, 26.II.1992, leg. R. Belshaw; Bunso, II.1992, leg. R. Belshaw; Bunso, nr. Tafo, 17.IV.1992, leg. R. Belshaw; Kade, X.1992, leg. R. Belshaw.

Tetramorium kakamega Hita Garcia, Fischer & Peters sp. n.

(Figures 8A, 58, 59, 60)

Holotype worker, KENYA, Kakamega Forest, Isecheno Forest Reserve, 00° 24' N, 34° 86' E, 1800m, 28.IV.2001, Equatorial rain forest, under bark of rotten wood, hand collected, leg. R.R. Snelling (ZFMK: ZFMK_HYM_2009_6098). Paratypes, 4 workers with same data as holotype (CASC: 1 worker ZFMK_HYM_2009_6097; LACM: 1 worker ZFMK_HYM_2009_6095; NMK: 1 worker ZFMK_HYM_2009_6099; ZFMK: 1 worker ZFMK_HYM_2009_6096).

Diagnosis

The combination of medially impressed anterior clypeal margin, impressed metanotal groove, long and spinose propodeal spines (PSLI 27–28), postpetiole in lateral view dorsally rounded and relatively low (LPpI 77–83), and in dorsal view only slightly wider than petiole (PPI 103–113), render *T. kakamega* recognizable within the *T. muralti* complex.

Description

HL 0.756–0.778 (0.770); HW 0.722–0.756 (0.742); SL 0.478–0.500 (0.493); EL 0.144–0.156 (0.153); PW 0.533–0.567 (0.549); WL 0.856–0.911 (0.874); PSL 0.206–0.217 (0.211); PTL 0.122–0.139 (0.132); PTH 0.311–0.322 (0.313); PTW 0.289–0.322 (0.304); PPL 0.222–0.233 (0.226); PPH 0.267–0.289 (0.282); PPW 0.328–0.344 (0.332); CI 96–97 (96); SI 65–68 (66); OI 20–22 (21); PSLI 27–28 (27); PeNI 54–57 (55); LPeI 39–43 (42); DPeI 221–236 (230); PpNI 59–61 (61); LPpI 77–83 (80); DPpI 143–151 (147); PPI 103–113 (109) (5 measured).