



Figs. 35 - 36: *Odontomachus banksi* lectotype at MHNG: (35) habitus (upper specimen), lateral view; (36) labels.

Ubi, no further data, det. W.L. Brown, 1 ♀. Camarines Norte: SW Daet, San Vicente, Fabrica, Mananap, 6.II.2001, leg. H. Zettel, E. S. & L. S. Vichozo (264), 4 ♂♂, 17.III.2003, leg. H. Zettel, C. V. Pangantihon & L. S. Vichozo (348), 3 ♂♂. Labo, Tulay na Lupa, Mt. Labo – Mt. Bayabas area, 17.-18.III.2004, leg. H. Zettel & C. V. Pangantihon (382), 9 ♂♂, 18.V.2006, leg. C. V. Pangantihon (P238), 7 ♂♂. Camarines Sur: Naga City, ca. 20 km E of city, 5 km E Carolina, slopes of Mt. Isarog, Malabsay Falls, 19.II.1998, leg. H. Zettel (141), 9 ♂♂, 4.III.1999, leg. H. Zettel (192), 18 ♂♂, 4.III.1999, leg. F. Seyfert (19), 6 ♂♂, 20.IX.1999, leg. H. Zettel (208), 8 ♂♂.

Description of worker: Measurements: lectotype: CI 77, 2.80 HW, 3.65 HL, 56 MdI, 2.05 MdL, 4.95 MsL, 1.60 PnW, 1.47 PtH, 1.63 PtL, 0.58 PtW, 132 SI, 3.70 SL, 16 TL worker with smallest HW: CI 67, HL 2.90, HW 1.95, MdI 56, MdL 1.63, MsL 4.13, PnW 1.13, PtH 1.02, PtL 1.16, PtW 0.40, SI 157, SL 3.07, TL 12.38; worker with largest HW: CI 74, HL 3.70, HW 2.73, MdI 55, MdL 2.05, MsL 5.33, SI 138, SL 3.77, PnW 1.59, PtH 1.58, PtL 1.68, PtW 0.58, TL 15.75.

Structures: Striation on head extending from frontal lobes to ocular ridge, rest of head smooth and shiny. Pronotum with round to transverse striation, closed loops and circles may be visible in dorsal view. Mesopleuron with fine transverse striation. Petiole with some fine striation laterally and with long and acute petiolar spine; anterior face of node straight to almost concave.

Pilosity: Pubescence dense, long.

Colour: Bicoloured; head light brown contrasting with reddish brown mesosoma and petiole, dark brown gaster.

Distribution (Fig. 47): Endemic to the Philippines and present only in the central and southern parts of Luzon; records from Laguna, Quezon (BROWN 1976), Camarines Norte and Camarines Sur.

Habitats: Only in dipterocarp forests, sometimes degraded, on mountain slopes.

Notes: *Odontomachus banksi* is the most distinct Philippine member of the *O. infandus* group species. It can be distinguished from all other species by the relatively long and dense pilosity of the mesosoma and by striation on the petiole. The smooth and shiny posterior of the head is also



Fig. 37: *Odontomachus malignus*, head, full face view. Scale = 1 mm.

present in three other species: *Odontomachus philippinus* in the Western Visayas, *O. scifictus* sp.n. on Camiguin, and *O. sp. 2* on Mindanao. They have brown heads and a smooth area on the mesopleuron, whereas the head of *O. banksi* is yellowish orange and its mesopleuron densely and fully striate. A population of *O. alius* sp.n. from Catanduanes resembles *O. banksi* in light and (partly) smooth head, but differs in sparse pilosity of mesosoma, fine striation of mesopleuron, distinctly curved petiolar spine (straight in *O. banksi*), and brownish gaster (blackish in *O. banksi*). The range of *O. banksi* is within the distribution of the more common *O. infandus*, which clearly indicates its specific status. See also notes under *Odontomachus* sp. 1 from Camarines.

Odontomachus malignus species group

Diagnosis: Palp formula 4, 4. Head short, posteriorly with pair of tubercles. Mandibles long with long and sharp apical and subapical teeth. Antennae relatively short. Mesosoma not depressed. Pronotum with delicate sculpture. Petiole comparatively small and low.

Diversity and distribution: This group contains only one species, *O. malignus* from the western Pacific area.

Notes: BROWN (1976) included *O. malignus* in the *O. infandus* species group, mainly because of its mandibular structures. However, the short head, short scape, and comparatively high and stout mesosoma differ considerably from both the *O. infandus* and the *O. rixosus* species group. The combination of morphological characters and the unique biology justify the erection of a separate species group.

Odontomachus malignus SMITH, 1859 (Figs. 37-39, 47)

Odontomachus malignus SMITH, 1859: 144 (description of worker, type locality: Aru Island, Indonesia). WILSON 1959: 495 (discussion, ecological notes); BROWN 1976: 159-160 (discussion, ecological notes, distribution: Tawi-Tawi, Sitanki Jolo Island, Rennell Island); OLSEN 2009: 11 (distribution, ecological notes).