mandibular insertion, and a few concentric rugae around antennal fossa, piligerous puncta very small, resulting in overall smooth and highly polished appearance; mesosoma smooth and shiny throughout, with longitudinal carinae on metapleuron and a few longitudinal carinae over metapleural gland; notauli fused and barely visible on anterior mesonotum; parapsidal lines distinct, extending about half length of mesonotum; dorsal and posterior faces of propodeum more or less flat, meeting at a low boss; foraminal carina incomplete, curving from metapleural lobes onto posterior face of propodeum but nearly effaced medially; petiole and postpetiole smooth and shining; petiole with short posterior peduncle; ventral margin of petiole with large translucent longitudinal flange, ventral margin of flange erose, with irregular jagged posteriorly-directed teeth (detail of margin varies between holotype and paratype); ventral margin of postpetiole with large, acute anteroventral tooth; gaster smooth and shining; all dorsal body surfaces and appendages with abundant moderately coarse setae; color dark red brown.

Biology. Both queens were collected in the same locality, in mature montane wet forest. The holotype queen was in a Winkler sample of sifted leaf litter. The paratype queen was collected as a forager on the ground. The foraging queen had rapid wasp-like behavior, with rapidly vibrating antennae.

Etymology. The name of this species refers to the fact that it is known only from queens. It is a noun in apposition and invariant.

Comments. The lack of associated workers, in spite of abundant collecting (including many Winkler samples) at the type locality, raises the possibility that this species is a workerless social parasite. Alternatively, workers may be subterranean associates of attines and thus not acccessible to standard collection techniques.

The mandibular dentition of *reina* is highly distinctive and unlike any other *Megalomyrmex* species. In other species the dentition varies from a condition of few teeth that gradually decrease in size basally to one in which the two apical teeth are much larger than a series of diminished basal denticles. In contrast, *reina* has a single large apical tooth, which is long and sharp, followed by a relatively uniform series of smaller teeth. The size difference between the apical and subapical tooth is much greater than in other species. Many socially parasitic ant species have falcate mandibles associated with their ability to attack and subdue hosts. Perhaps the long apical tooth of *reina* is such an adaptation, strengthening the conjecture that it may be a social parasite.

Megalomyrmex silvestrii Wheeler

(Fig. 1F)

Megalomyrmex silvestrii Wheeler,1909: 235. Holotype worker: Cordoba, Veracruz, Mexico [MCZ] (not examined). Senior synonym of *brasiliensis, langi, misionensis, sjostedti, wheeleri*: Kempf & Brown, 1968: 97. Full synonymy in Kempf & Brown, 1968. See also: Brandão, 1990: 443.

Measurements. Worker: HW 0.60–0.73, HL 0.71–0.88, SL 0.83–1.08, ML 1.08–1.45 (n=30, from Brandão, 1990).

Geographic range. Widespread in the mainland Neotropics from Mexico to northern Argentina.

Biology. This species occurs in moist to wet forest habitats, from sea level to 1100 m elevation. It nests in small chambers in rotten wood or opportunistically in other small cavities in the soil. Colonies have been found in small attine nests and alone, suggesting it is a facultative predator of small Attini. Mann (1916) stated "A good series of workers were taken at Ceiba and San Juan Pueblo, nesting in the ground and in rotten logs. It is a timid species and very active when disturbed." Weber (1940) reported three collections of *silvestrii* (reported as *wheeleri*; *wheeleri* synonymized with *silvestrii* by Kempf & Brown 1968) in nests of *Cyphomyrmex costatus* on Barro Colorado Island, Panama. In one nest he found a dealate queen. In a second nest he found a dealate queen and a worker. In a third nest he found 3 dealate queens and 55 workers. However, Brown (in Kempf & Brown 1968) reported finding four nests, two from Barro Colorado Island, one from Cerro Campana, Panama, and one from Santa Teresa, Brazil, that "were nesting independently of other ants so far as he could tell." Brown's two Barro Colorado nests were "inside a small clod of soil in the leaf litter," and "in a small piece of rotten wood, 10 mm deep and 15 mm wide, also contained many termites." Diniz collected isolated nests of *silvestrii* in Betim, MG, Brazil (reported in Brandão 1990). Kempf and Brown (1968) suggested that the species is "not so much a parasite as it is a mass-foraging predator that specializes in raiding, and sometimes occupying, the nests of small Attini." Workers are moderately abundant in Winkler samples of forest floor litter, and workers may visit baits on the forest floor.

Material examined. BOLIVIA: Covendo, 1921–1922 (W. M. Mann); BRAZIL: Paraná: Pinhão UHE Rib. Estreito, 20 Mar 1992 (Rocha & Barreto); Sao Paulo: Mirassol, 3 Jan 1980 (Diniz & Almeida); COLOMBIA: