

tergites with many relatively long and stiff hairs.

Material examined.— Yemen, Aden Park, viii.1991 (*A. Van Harten*) (4 specimens examined, WML). The Antweb specimen shown in Plate 4 is from Slovenia.

Plagiolepis schmitzii Forel, 1895

Plate 5, Figs. a-c

Plagiolepis pygmaea var. *schmitzii* Forel, 1895:231.

Syntype worker: MADEIRA, Serra d'Agua (*P. E. Schmitz*) (MHNG) [examined].

Plagiolepis pygmaea var. *barbara* Santschi, 1911: 286.

Plagiolepis schmitzi st. *croisi* Santschi, 1920: 168.

Plagiolepis barbara var. *madeirensis* Emery, 1921: 315

Syntype worker.— TL 2.1, HL 0.50, HW 0.46, SL 0.46, EL 0.13, SI 100, CI 92, PRW 0.30, ML 0.60

Redescription of Worker.— Body dirty yellow, gaster yellowish brown, antennae and legs clear yellow. Head longer than broad and with clearly convex sides. Posterior margin of head distinctly concave with rounded corners. Eyes conspicuously large (EL 0.13) with 12 ommatidia in the longest row and occupying about quarter of head sides. All funicular segments clearly longer than broad. Second funicular segment distinctly shorter than the third. Fourth funicular segment 1.5 times longer than the third. Scapes in full-face view surpassing occiput by ca 0.25 of own length. Mesosoma in dorsal view elongated. Whole body and antennae with relatively dense appressed yellow pubescence. Gaster with well spaced and quite thick long hairs situated on posterior margins of all tergites.

Comment.— As Forel (1895) stated in his original description that the sides of the head are less convex than the other species. Other specimens from Spain and Madeira are illustrated by Taylor & Sharaf (2007). Those are a darker red-brown than the, probably faded, syntype.

Distribution in Arabia.— Anamas, Tanuma, Asir Province, Saudi Arabia (Collingwood, 1985)

The following key will allow the separation of the genus *Plagiolepis* known from Arabia.

Key to *Plagiolepis* from Arabia

- 1 Scape short (SL 0.26), not reaching posterior margin of head in full-face view 2
- Scape longer (SL 0.29-0.46) and surpassing posterior margin of head in full-face view 4
- 2 SI 63; antennal scape exceptionally short, only reaching half of head length; relatively large species, TL 1.40, HL 0.47, HW 0.41; (Yemen) ***breviscapa***
- SI 84 or more; antennal scape longer surpassing half of head length; smaller species, TL 1.23 or less, HL 0.29-0.36, HW 0.28-0.31; 3
- 3 EL 0.19 X HW, with 6 ommatidia in the longest row; funiculus segments 3-4 broader than long; pubescence quite dense over whole body; TL 1.23, SL 0.31, SI 84; (India, west to Yemen) (Figs. 3a, b, c) ***exigua***
- EL 0.25 X HW; with 9 ommatidia in the longest row, funiculus segments 3-4 longer than broad; pubescence sparser; TL 1.02, SL 0.26, SI 111; (Yemen) (Plate 3, Fig. a) ***juddi***
- 4 Head as long as broad; clypeus yellow contrasting the dark brown head dorsum; eyes small (EL 0.07); TL 1.20 or less, SL 0.29, SI 100; (Ethiopia, North East Africa, Saudi Arabia) (Figs. 1 a, b, c) ***abyssinica***
- Head distinctly longer than broad; clypeus unicolorous with head dorsum; eyes larger (EL > 0.11) TL 1.3 or more; 5
- 5 Funiculus segments 2-4 longer than broad; yellowish brown to red-brown; TL 2.1, SL 0.46, SI 100; (Madeira, Spain, North Africa and Saudi Arabia) (Figs. 5a, b, c) ***schmitzii***
- At least one of funiculus segments 2-4 broader than long 6