

HL	Maximum head length in full-face view, measured from the anterior clypeal margin to the midpoint of a line drawn across the posterior margin of head
HW	Maximum head width in full-face view
SL	Scape length excluding the basal of constriction and condylar bulb
ML	Mesosomal length measured from the point at which the pronotum meets the cervical shield to the posterior margin of metapleuron in profile
PL	Petiole length measured from the anterior margin of the peduncle to the posteriormost point of tergite in profile
SI	Scape index, $SL/HW \times 100$
CI	Cephalic index, $HW/HL \times 100$

Abbreviations of the type depositories and others are as follows:

AMK	Ant Museum, Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University
BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, U.K
MCZC	Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, MA, U.S.A
MHNG	Museum d' Histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland
MZB	Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense, Cibinong, Indonesia
SKYC	SKY Collection at Kagoshima University, Japan
THNHM	Natural History Museum of the National Science Museum, Thailand
WJT	Weeyawat Jaitrong Collection at National Science Museum, Thailand

The general terminology in the worker caste of the ants follows Hölldobler & Wilson (1990), and Bolton (1994). For the important characters in the genus *Aenictus* used in this paper, see Wilson (1964) and Jaitrong & Yamane (2011).

## TAXONOMY

### *Aenictus pachycerus* species group

**Diagnosis.** — Jaitrong & Yamane (2011) defined this species group as follows: antenna long, consisting of 10 segments; scape long reaching or extending beyond posterolateral corner of head; anterior clypeal margin roundly convex in the middle, lacking denticles; mandible triangular, with very dense punctures; its masticatory margin with a large and sharp apical tooth followed by 4–12 small inconspicuous denticles, which gradually reduce in size toward basal angle of mandible; frontal carinae fused at the level of antennal base to form a single carina, and extending less than half length of head, and well developed anteriorly and poorly developed posteriorly; parafrontal ridge present, reaching less than half length of head; seen in profile its anteriormost part well developed and raised as a subtriangular process; occipital margin forming a collar or carina; promesonotum distinctly convex or very weakly convex dorsally and sloping gradually to propodeum; propodeal junction angulated; declivity of

propodeum concave, encircled with a rim; subpetiolar process weakly developed.

Head entirely sculptured or smooth and shiny. Petiole and postpetiole densely punctate, at least in Southeast Asian species. First gastral segment entirely smooth and shiny, or rarely superficially shagreened, except the base of the tergite and sternite that has dense small punctures. Body black, dark or reddish brown to light or yellowish brown; typhlata spot absent.

**Remarks.** — The *Aenictus pachycerus* group consists of relatively large species in terms of body size (TL 3.20–4.65 mm: 1.80–3.00 mm in smaller species). Wilson (1964) and Jaitrong & Yamane (2011) pointed out that this group is closely related to the *A. philippinensis* group, but can be distinguished from the latter by the mesonotum not visibly demarcated from the mesopleuron, and the metanotal groove almost absent or indistinct (mesopleuron clearly demarcated from metapleuron by a deep groove and from promesonotum by a distinct carina and metanotal groove relatively deep and distinct in the *A. philippinensis* group). This species group is also related to the *Aenictus hottai* group in having developed a frontal carina and parafrontal ridge but can be separated from the latter by the first gastral tergite smooth and shiny and by the weakly developed subpetiolar process (the first gastral tergite densely micropunctate and the subpetiolar process well developed in the latter; see Jaitrong & Yamane, 2011).

### Key to species of the Southeast Asian *Aenictus pachycerus* species group based on the worker caste

1. Head entirely smooth and shiny; dorsum of mesosoma entirely smooth and shiny.....2
- Head entirely sculptured or partly smooth and shiny; dorsum of mesosoma entirely sculptured or partly smooth and shiny4
2. Promesonotum in profile with clearly convex dorsal outline; propodeum lower than promesonotum; body yellowish brown (Philippines).....*A. powersi*
- Mesosoma dorsally flat or feebly convex; body reddish brown.....3
3. Smaller species (HW 0.63–0.65 mm); propodeum in profile with feebly convex dorsal outline; longest pronotal hair 0.25–0.28 mm (Philippines) ..... *A. carolianus*
- Larger species (HW 0.75–0.78 mm); propodeum in profile with straight dorsal outline; longest pronotal hair ca. 0.15 mm (Philippines)..... *A. reyesi*
4. First gastral tergite superficially shagreened (Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand)..... *A. paradenatus*
- First gastral tergite smooth and shiny.....5
5. Side of head partly smooth and shiny; dorsal face of pronotum partly shiny .....6
- Side of head entirely sculpturate (punctate or reticulate); dorsal face of pronotum entirely sculptured and opaque .....7
6. Area just outside parafrontal ridge shagreened; vertex reticulate, with sparse standing hairs (less than 12); postpetiole almost as long as petiole (Sulawesi) ..... *A. sulawesiensis*, new species
- Area just outside parafrontal ridge with several irregular longitudinal rugulae; vertex finely punctate; vertex with denser standing hairs (more than 15); petiole distinctly longer than petiole (Java) ..... *A. sp. 84 of WJT* (see Remarks under Material examined for other species)