

KEY TO THE WORKERS OF THE *P. XIPHIAS* SPECIES-GROUP

1. Petiolar spines widely divergent (New Guinea) ..... *P. xiphias* Fr. Smith  
- Petiolar spines subparallel ..... 2.
2. Clypeus only weakly concave in profile; eyes weakly convex (Fig. 1); dorsum of petiole in profile distinctly higher than base of spines (Fig. 5); legs medium reddish-brown (Borneo) .....  
..... *P. hashimotoi* Kohout  
- Clypeus distinctly sinuate in profile; eyes almost flat (Fig. 2); petiolar spines arising from summit of petiolar dorsum (Fig. 7); legs light yellow (China, Vietnam) ..... *P. shixingensis* Wu & Wang

***Polyrhachis hashimotoi* Kohout, 2007**

(Figs. 1, 4, 5)

*Polyrhachis hashimotoi* Kohout, 2007: 12, Figs. 7, 8. Holotype worker. Type locality: EAST MALAYSIA, SABAH, 10 km S of Danum Valley Field Centre, Reduced-impact Logging Project Area, 20.vii-25.viii.1994, ITBC (examined).

## WORKER

Dimensions of holotype: TL c. 6.95; HL 1.75; HW 1.47; CI 84; SL 1.62; SI 110; PW 1.03; MTL 1.84 (1 measured)

Sexuals and immature stages unknown.

## REMARKS

*Polyrhachis hashimotoi* is very similar to *P. shixingensis* from China and *P. xiphias* from New Guinea, with the clypeus of all three species featuring a median carina arising from its truncate and shallowly emarginate margin. However, in *P. shixingensis* the carina is short, strongly raised and rather sharp, in *P. xiphias* it is weakly and evenly raised throughout its length and in *P. hashimotoi* it is rather flat and blunt anteriorly. The dorsum of the petiole in *P. hashimotoi* and *P. xiphias* is distinctly higher than the bases of petiolar spines which arise from below the convex summit of the petiole. In contrast, in *P. shixingensis* the spines arise from the summit of the petiolar dorsum.

***Polyrhachis shixingensis* Wu & Wang, 1995**

(Figs. 2, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13)

*Polyrhachis shixingensis* Wu & Wang, 1995: 166, 200, Figs. 334, 348, 351. Holotype and paratype workers. Type locality: CHINA, Guangdong Prov., Shixing County, Chebaling Natural Conservation Area (Lu Chuanchuan), RIFP.

## ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED

CHINA, Guangdong Prov., Heyuan Xinggang, c. 23 53' 30''N, 114 30' 50'' E, c. 160 m, 22.iii.1997 (J. R. Fellowes #20) (w, q, m); Jiuwanshan Nature Reserve, north Guangxi, 25°18'N, 108°52'E, 27.vii.1998, 540 m, shrubland (J. R. Fellowes) (w); Niujiaoling, Shangxi Nature Reserve, Hainan, 18°47'N, 110°11'E, 20.v.1999, 290 m, tall closed shrubland (J. R. Fellowes) (w); ditto, 360 m, closed-canopy broadleaf forest (J. R. Fellowes) (w); Yangchun Baiyong Nature Reserve, Guangdong, 22°24'N, 111°38'E, 3.v.1998, 540 m, secondary forest (J. R. Fellowes) (w). VIETNAM, Dongkho I., 19 & 23.iii.1987, at light (A. G. Radchenko) (w, q).

## WORKER

Dimensions: TL c. 6.45-7.16; HL 1.56-1.81; HW 1.47-1.62; CI 88-93; SL 1.59-1.76; SI 108-112; PW 0.87-1.03; MTL 1.72-1.93 (6 measured)

QUEEN (not previously described)

Dimensions: TL c. 9.47; HL 2.25; HW 1.87; CI 83; SL 1.87; SI 100; PW 1.50; MTL 2.18 (1 measured)

Queen very similar to worker with usual characters of full sexuality, including three ocelli, complete thoracic structure and wings. Eyes larger than in worker, in full-face view marginally exceeding lateral cephalic outline. Pronotal humeri bluntly angular with anterior margins weakly indicated for short distance towards pronotal collar. Mesoscutum in lateral view with relatively low, widely rounded anterior margin and posteriorly flat dorsum; median line indistinct; parapsides flat. Mesoscutellum weakly convex, only marginally elevated above dorsal plane of mesosoma, Propodeal dorsum weakly transversely convex with lateral margins converging posteriorly and