

*Non-type workers (smaller)*: TL 2.10–2.20 mm; HL 0.48–0.50 mm; HW 0.40–0.43 mm; SL 0.23–0.25 mm; ML 0.63–0.68 mm; PL 0.15–0.18 mm CI 84–85; SI 56–59.

**Worker description** (holotype and paratypes). Head in full-face view subrectangular, distinctly longer than broad, with sides slightly convex and posterior margin almost straight. Antennal scape extending beyond midlength of head, but not reaching 2/3 of head length; antennal segment II almost as long as III and each longer than broad; IV–VIII each slightly broader than long; terminal segment about 2 times as long as broad. Frontal carina short, slightly extending beyond the level of posterior margin of torulus. Masticatory margin of mandible with a large apical tooth, followed by 6 teeth of two sizes, a larger alternating with a smaller; basal margin lacking denticles. In smaller workers maximum width of gap between anterior clypeal margin and mandibles about 0.9–1.0 times as broad as maximum width of mandible (larger workers almost lacking the gap). Promesonotum in profile strongly convex dorsally and sloping gradually to metanotal groove; metanotal groove rather distinct but shallow; mesopleuron clearly demarcated from metapleuron by a shallow groove; metapleural gland bulla relatively large and transparent, its maximum diameter about 3.0–3.5 times as long as distance between propodeal spiracle and metapleural gland bulla. Propodeum in profile with weakly convex to almost straight dorsal outline; propodeal junction angulated; declivity of propodeum narrowly and shallowly concave, encircled with a distinct rim. Petiole excluding subpetiolar process almost as long as high, with its dorsal outline convex; subpetiolar process weakly developed, with its ventral outline convex. Postpetiole clearly shorter than petiole, its dorsal outline convex.

Head and gaster entirely smooth and shiny. Mandible very finely striate. Antennal scape entirely superficially microreticulate, but shiny. Promesonotum entirely smooth and shiny except for reticulate anteriormost portion; mesopleuron, metapleuron, lateral face of propodeum reticulate; dorsal face of propodeum punctate, somewhat shiny; petiole with reticulate lateral face and smooth and shiny dorsal face; postpetiole same as petiole. Legs smooth and shiny.

Head and mesosoma dorsally with relatively dense standing hairs; longest pronotal hair 0.13–0.15 mm long. Head, petiole, postpetiole, gaster, and legs yellowish brown; mesosoma reddish brown.

**Distribution.** Japan and Taiwan (Fig. 24A).

**Bionomics.** Terayama (1984) reported that the material from Meishan Cun was taken “at hard clay soil of the road cutting about 50 cm above ground level”. When another person saw it at 5 p.m., the colony was prepared for the nuptial flight. One male was in the nest entrance, and about 40 workers were seen coming out of the nest, gathering around the entrance in a circle.

**Remarks.** Jaitrong and Yamane (2011) included *A. lifuiiae* in the *A. minutulus* group (referred to as the *A. piercei* group). However, after a careful examination of the smaller specimens of *A. lifuiiae* collected from Iriomote-jima and Okinawa-jima, southern Japan, we found that their mandible is almost linear, the anterior clypeal margin is straight or weakly concave, and that a gap occurs between the mandibles and anterior clypeal margin. These characteristics are used to separate the *A. ceylonicus* group from