

Hill; BBL); Mt Cottell, 17°22'S., 144°52'E. (RWT and JEF); Mt Helen Station Rd, Paluma Range (RWT); Mt Webb Natl Pk, 15°04'S., 145°07'E. (I. D. Naumann); Mullungarra (TG); Norman R. crossing, nr Normanton, 17°51'S., 141°08'E. (R. J. Kohout); North Pine R. (A. Musgrave); Picnic Bay, Magnetic I. (BBL); Robin Hood (collector unknown); Round I. mixed with Restoration Rock (H. Heatwole); Taldora Station, N. of Julia Ck (R. Makim); The Common, nr Townsville (G. F. Hill); Thursday I. (N. L. H. Krauss); Townsville (F. P. Dodd; TG; PJMG; G. F. Hill; BBL); Townsville airport (BBL); Weipa Mission (TG); Winton (F. A. Cudmore); Wrotham Park (PJMG); c. 8 km SW. of Mt Garnet (RWT and JEF); nr Chillagoe, 17°14'S., 144°30'E. (RWT and JEF). **Western Australia:** 10 miles NNW. of Gordon Downs HS (RSM and JED); 11 miles S. of Pippingarra HS (J.H.C.); 12–20 miles SSW. of Kalumburu Mission, King Edward R., N. of Kimberleys (W. Leutert); 12 miles N. of Hamersley HS, Hamersley Range (RSM and JED); 14 miles W. of Mt Webb, 22°53'S., 127°55'E. (RSM and JED); 150 km S. of Dampier (PJMG); 163 km SE. by E. of Broome, 18°49'S., 123°17'E. (I. F. B. Common); 167 km W. of Fitzroy Crossing (R. R. Snelling and J. Grey) (LACM); 17 miles SW. of Coolawanyah HS, NW. of Wittenoom Gorge (RSM and JED); 1 mile SW. of Mt Herbert, S. of Roebourne (RSM and JED); 20 miles E. of Broome (RSM and JED); 21 miles NW. of Wittenoom Gorge (RSM and JED); 23 miles E. of Fitzroy Crossing (PJMG); 25 km WSW. of Barradale Roadhouse (PJMG); 25 miles WNW. of Mt Webb, 22°51'S., 127°45'E. (RSM and JED); 2 km ENE. of Millstream (JEF); 2 miles NE. of Abydos (J.H.C.); 3 km SW. of Wolf Creek Crater (A. Burbidge); 3 miles ENE. of Coolawanyah HS, NW. of Wittenoom Gorge (RSM and JED); 3 miles N. of Biboohoa (collector unknown); 3 miles N. of Hamersley HS, Hamersley Range (RSM and JED); 4 km W. of King Cascade, CLAM Site 28/3, 15°38'S., 125°15'E. (T. Weir); 80 km ESE. of Onslow (PJMG); Balgo Mission, 20°09'S., 127°58'E. (A. R. Peile); Barrow I., 20°46'S., 115°24'E. (H. Heatwole); Carson Escarpment, 14°49'S., 126°49'E. (I. F. B. Common and M. S. Upton); Coolawanyah (J.H.C.); Derby (J. G. Campbell); Drysdale R., 14°39'S., 126°57'E. (I. F. B. Common and M. S. Upton); Fitzroy Crossing (L. Chinnick); Fossil Downs, Kimberleys (Likins); Geraldton (J. Clark) [probably incorrectly labelled]; Gregory L., 2 km W. of Iens Bore (A. Burbidge); Halls Creek (L. Chinnick; S. A. Harrington); La Grange Mission, 120 miles S. of Broome (K. M. McKelson); Lone Dingo, Mitchell Plateau, 14°35'S., 125°45'E. (I. D. Naumann and J. C. Cardale); Millstream (E. B. Britton); Morgan Falls, 15°02'S., 126°40'E. (I. F. B. Common and M. S. Upton); Old Doongan, 15°19'S., 126°32'E. (I. F. B. Common and M. S. Upton); Pollack Hills, 40 miles WNW. of Mt Webb, 22°49'S., 127°31'E. (RSM and JED); Roebourne (K. T. Richards); Wyndham (R.G.L.).

Worker Diagnosis

Pronotal profile with the posterior region (immediately anterior to the pro-mesonotum suture) rising above the mesonotum in a short, strongly convex arch; in full face view, the lateral margin of the head generally without erect or suberect setae, but always with fewer than 5.

Description

Iridescence between compound eyes and on lateral region of head (between compound eye and insertion of mandible) absent to well-developed purple (usually more weakly developed on lateral region). Pigment colour of head and mesosoma light yellow to reddish; coxae and legs often with light infuscation, either the same colour as mesosoma or slightly darker; petiole slightly to much darker than mesosoma; lateral region of second gastral tergite moderately to very shiny and often with purple iridescence. Head pilosity (in full face view) present on occipital margin, and with 0–4 (rarely up to 8) setae near mandibular insertion. Ocelli absent. Ventrolateral pronotum with at most a few erect setae. Mesosomal setae pale to dark. Pilosity on first gastral tergite reduced, especially anteriorly. Anterodorsal region of propodeum flat to uniformly arched.

Measurements

Worker ($n=55$). CI 0·88–1·00; EL 0–30–0·40; EW 0·17–0·24; HL 1·66–2·32; HW 1·49–2·23; ML 0·71–1·13; PnL 0·82–1·23; PpL 0·82–1·23; REL 0·17–0·21; SI 0·85–1·06; SL 1·45–1·92.

Comments

Iridomyrmex sanguineus is the most common and widespread species of the *I. purpureus* group species in northern Australia (Fig. 16). It is most similar to *I. reburrus*, but lacks