

10. Head, mesosoma, petiole and gaster uniformly dark reddish brown to black and with a weak metallic blue iridescence; in full face view, erect hairs present on all lateral surfaces of head (Fig. 20); smaller species (HW < 1.02 mm, HL < 1.12 mm, mesosomal length (PnL + ML + PpL) < 1.70 mm) ..... *I. prismatis*, sp. nov.  
Head and mesosoma yellowish red, contrasting with dark reddish brown petiole and gaster, entire body lacking metallic iridescence; in full face view, erect hairs present only on posterior margin, absent laterally (Fig. 14); larger species (HW > 1.02 mm, HL > 1.12 mm, mesosomal length (PnL + ML + PpL) > 1.70 mm) ..... *I. mimulus*, sp. nov.
11. Erect hairs absent from gula; body colour (excluding gaster) yellow and with the head slightly but distinctly darker in colour than mesosoma ..... *I. argutus*, sp. nov.  
Erect hairs present on gula; body colour generally dark reddish brown to black, occasionally yellowish red, but always with the head and mesosoma similar in colour ..... *I. occiduus*, sp. nov.
12. Occurring on Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island ..... *I. albitarsus* Wheeler  
Occurring on New Caledonia ..... 13  
Widespread on the southern Australian mainland or Tasmania ..... *I. notialis*, sp. nov.
13. Scapes shorter, exceeding posterior margin of head by less than 1.8 × their maximum width (SL < 0.85 mm, SI < 1.02); posterior margin of head flat to weakly concave medially (Fig. 10); HTL < 1.10 mm ..... *I. calvus* Emery  
Scapes longer, exceeding posterior margin of head by more than 2.2 × their maximum width (SL > 0.86 mm, SI > 1.03); posterior margin of head convex (Fig. 12); HTL > 1.10 mm ..  
..... *I. obsidianus* Emery

***Iridomyrmex albitarsus* Wheeler**

(Figs 6, 7)

*Iridomyrmex albitarsus* Wheeler, 1927: 147.

**Material Examined**

**Types.** 27 worker, 2 queen and 9 male syntypes, Norfolk Island (22 workers, 2 queens and 8 males in MCZC; 3 workers in USNM; 2 workers and 1 male in MVMA).

**Other material** (in ANIC). **Lord Howe Island:** locality not given (W. J. Fellowes); Erskine Valley (RWT). **Norfolk Island:** Anson Bay Reserve, 29°01'S., 167°55'E. (JEF); Rocky Point Reserve, 29°03'S., 167°55'E. (JEF; T. A. Weir, L. Hill and I. D. Naumann).

**Worker Diagnosis**

A member of the *calvus* complex with the following characteristics: femora and tibiae of middle and hind legs lacking erect or suberect hairs; head finely punctate anterior to compound eyes, weakly coriarius posteriorly, with the entire head capsule weakly shiny; propodeal dorsum relatively low and rounded (Fig. 7); known only from Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island. *I. albitarsus* is similar to *I. notialis*, although they are allopatric; they may be separated by the lack of erect hairs on the pronotum (Fig. 7) [hairs generally present in *I. notialis* (Fig. 17)] and first gastral tergite. Additionally, *I. albitarsus* differs from *I. notialis* in the generally darker body colour.

**Description**

Pigment colour of head, mesothorax, propodeum and legs dark reddish brown, anterior regions of head and clypeus sometimes slightly lighter, scapes and mandibles yellowish red; tarsi yellowish red basally, gradually fading to yellowish distally. Erect or suberect hairs absent from lateral margin of head (in full face view), scapes, mesosomal dorsum, legs, petiolar node, and first two gastral tergites. Head capsule with fine, small punctures anteriorly and weak coriarius sculpturing posteriorly; dorsal and lateral regions of mesosoma with both fine, small punctures and weak coriarius sculpturing forming an indistinct, continuous mosaic pattern. For additional characters, see 'Worker Diagnosis', 'Key' and the definition and discussion of the *calvus* complex.