

as discussed above under 'Diagnosis of the *Iridomyrmex calvus* Group', and so it is placed within the *I. calvus* group. Nothing is known of the biology of this species.

Iridomyrmex notialis, sp. nov.

(Figs 16, 17, 36)

Material Examined

Holotype. Worker, South Australia, Port Adelaide [c. 34°50'S., 138°30'E.], 15.ix.1972, B. B. Lowery (ANIC, type no. 7995).

Paratypes. 144 workers, same data as holotype (62 pointed, 82 in alcohol as ANIC Ant Vial # 63.31) (ANIC, BMNH, MCZC).

Other material (in ANIC except where noted). **New South Wales:** 'Kapunda', N. of Nyngan (PJM); Queanbeyan (G. Moore). **Northern Territory:** Ormiston Gorge (M. E. McKaige) (ANAC). **South Australia:** Coolatoo, Coorong Natl Pk (PJM); Hindmarsh R., Victor Harbor (PJM); Mookra Tower (PJM); Napperby, Flinders Ranges (PJM); Orparinna, Flinders Ranges (PJM); Rocky R., Kangaroo I. (PJM). **Tasmania:** locality not given (N. M. Hudson); Launceston (V. V. Hickman). **Victoria:** 15 km WNW. of Yaapect, Wyperfeld Natl Pk, 35°42'S., 141°52'E. (ANA) (ANAC); French I. (ANA) (ANAC); nr Anglesea, 38°23'S., 144°10'E. (ANA) (ANAC); Rotamah I., 19 km S. of Bairnsdale (ANA) (ANAC). **Western Australia:** Albany Hwy, 20 km N. of Williams (B. Heterick) (JDMC); Denmark (collector unknown); Kings Park (BBL); Lake Powell, SW. of Albany (B. Heterick) (JDMC); Thomas R., 23 km NW. by W. of Mt Arid, 33°51'S., 123°00'E. (JEF); Yokinup Bay, Cape Arid Natl Pk (A. H. Burbidge) (ANAC).

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 coriarious posteriorly, with the entire head capsule weakly shiny; propodeal dorsum relatively low and rounded (Fig. 17). *Iridomyrmex notialis* is most similar to *I. albitarsus* (which is known to occur only on Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands). For separation see 'Worker Diagnosis' under that species.

Description

Pigment colour of head, mesothorax, propodeum and femora varying from light to dark reddish brown; anterior regions of head, clypeus, and mandibles slightly to distinctly lighter; scapes (especially basal region) yellowish to yellowish red; tibiae sometimes slightly lighter than mesosoma; tarsi dark basally, fading to yellowish or yellowish red distally. Erect or suberect hairs absent from lateral margin of head (in full face view), scapes, dorsum of mesothorax and propodeum, legs, and petiolar node; erect hairs present or absent on pronotum and dorsum of gaster. Head capsule with fine, small punctures anteriorly and weak coriarious sculpturing posteriorly; dorsal and lateral regions of mesosoma with both fine, small punctures and weak coriarious sculpturing forming an indistinct, continuous mosaic pattern. For additional characters, see 'Worker Diagnosis', 'Key' and the definition and discussion of the *calvus* complex.

Measurements

Holotype. CI 0.94; EL 0.22; EW 0.13; HL 0.92; HTL 1.01; HW 0.87; ML 0.39; PnL 0.47; PpL 0.42; REL 0.26; SI 0.92; SL 0.80.

Worker ($n=9$). CI 0.93–0.97; EL 0.20–0.24; EW 0.13–0.15; HL 0.84–1.14; HTL 0.95–1.28; HW 0.78–1.11; ML 0.36–0.54; PnL 0.43–0.56; PpL 0.40–0.57; REL 0.22–0.27; SI 0.89–0.97; SL 0.76–1.01.

Comments

Iridomyrmex notialis is one of the most widespread species in the *calvus* group. It ranges from Tasmania and central New South Wales west to South Australia, as well as Western Australia. Morphologically it is fairly uniform throughout its range, although it does show variation in overall body colour (varying from light to dark reddish brown) and size, and