

punctate. Petiole and postpetiole delicately shagreened.

Ventral surface of each side of head and also ventral side of each mandible with remarkably long ammochaetae as in *pergandei*. Anterior border of clypeus with a row of long, curved hairs. Dorsal surface of body with rather numerous, erect, yellowish hairs of variable length, many of these unusually long. Hairs on antennal scape short, somewhat appressed.

Head, thorax, petiole and postpetiole brown, gaster darker; eyes and mandibular teeth black.

TYPE LOCALITY: Nevada Dominion Mine, Pyramid Mining District, Mullen Gap (five miles west of Pyramid Lake), Washoe County, Nevada, May 8, 1951, nesting in sand, Ira La Rivers.

Described from a holotype and 38 paratype workers. The holotype and 25 paratypes have been placed in the collection of the United States National Museum under U. S. N. M. No. 65266. The remaining paratypes have been returned to Dr. La Rivers.

Paratypes vary in size and color. The range in length is from 3.8 to 5.2 mm. The color of some specimens, especially of the smallest workers (which may be callows), is light brown. A small infuscated spot is present on the vertex of some individuals and absent on the vertex of others.

This new form has been carefully compared with types of all other North American *Veromessor*. In the Wheeler and Creighton key to *Veromessor* (1934, Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci. 69:361) it keys to couplet three and in Creighton's North American Ants (l.c., page 158) it keys to couplet two. In each case the couplet includes the same forms, *pergandei* and *stoddardi*. *V. lariversi* is more closely related to *pergandei* than to any other of our *Veromessor*. It differs especially from that species in the more convex and protuberant eye (which lacks the distinct antero-ventral angle of *pergandei*), the absence of a tooth-like process on the middle of the anterior border of the clypeus, the longer and more slender antennal scape (the scape of *pergandei* fails to attain the posterior border of the head in some individuals and does not surpass it in others), the coarser sculpture, different color (piceous brown to jet black in *pergandei* and the longer and more slender, subcampanulate postpetiole.

Although little is known about the biology of *lariversi* it is assumed that because of close resemblance of the species to *pergandei*,