5 (4). Posterior third of head covered thickly with conspicuous, white, orbicular squamiform hair (including the specialized hairs, which are only weakly differentiated in this species) pilosity of anterior two-thirds of head abruptly reduced to fine, minute vestiges, this are appearing naked by contrast (N.E. New Guinea)
Pilosity of head otherwise; either reduced throughout or without an abrupt difference between anterior and posterior sections; specialized larger hairs, when present on dorsum of head strongly differentiated and more or less erect and clavate
6 (5). Specialized erect hairs of head absent or reduced to a single median pair on the verticocciput. Specialized erect hairs on head (when complement is not damaged) 16–18 in number, arranged in 3 traverse rows
7 (6). Smaller species (HW 0·57-0·60 mm), completely lacking specialized erect hairs on dorsum of head; posterior occipital angles strong, subrectangular, separated by a broad, deep posterior excision; propodeal teeth projecting and acute, with narrow concave infradente lamellae (N.E. New Guinea)
Larger species (HW 0·70–0·74 mm) with a pair of small erect hairs on verticocciput; posterio occipital angles barely developed, so that the posterior outline of the head (seen full-face between lateral occipital angles is broadly arcuate, with only a slight median emargination propodeal teeth obtuse, with broad infradental lamellae (Negros, Philippines)
8 (6). Larger species (WL > 0.65 mm); dorsal face of propodeum with an angular impression of "step" at its midlength (New Caledonia)
slope
9 (8). Very small species (WL <0.52 mm); clypeus divided by a transversely arched carina; head bearing 16 large erect hairs, with 8 in the anterior row (New Guinea, New Britain Guadalcanal)
Slightly larger species (WL > 0.52 mm); head with 18 large erect hairs, 10 in the anterior row (Queensland)
10 (4). Mandibles broadly triangular, their posterior borders closing directly against the anterior clypeal border, outer borders usually convex, feebly concave in one species (Fig. 6)11
Mandibles narrowed, posterior borders oblique, so that a large semicircular space is left between them and the anterior clypeal border at full closure, outer borders distinctly concave (Fig. 12) (N.E. New Guinea)
11(10). Posterior angles of occipital lobes (in full-face view) very distinctly acute; head, mesosoma and nodes rather coarsely rugose; posterior sides of mesosoma covered with coarse diagonal costation; first gastric tergite, except for a narrow median strip, uniformly covered with conspicuous, subreclinate, squamiform hairs (larger erect hairs differentiated in female, but not in worker); HW >1·33 (Fiji)
Posterior occipital angles slightly obtuse or at most very feebly acute; body variously sculptured, but never so extensively rugose; posterior sides of mesosoma nearly smooth, at most feebly punctulate or shagreened, and in most specimens more or less shining; first gastric tergite with ground pilosity minute, sparsely and unevenly distributed, or obsolete, 1 or more pairs of erect clavate hairs often present on its disc; HW only rarely (in Philippines) exceeding 1·30 mm, usually much less
12(11). Ventral profile of petiole finely serrate (Fig. 8); first gastric tergite with up to 8 erect clavate hairs arranged in 2 longitudinal rows; head and promesonotum rarely contrasting strongly in sculptural intensity [Philippines, Borneo to Solomon Is. (including Guadalcanal) and Cape York; Samoa; Palau]
Ventral profile of petiole lacking serrations (Fig. 7); first gastric tergite without erect clavate hairs; head smooth, with scattered medium punctures, contrasting strongly with the coarsely rugo-reticulate promesonotal dorsum (Guadalcanal, Solomon Is.)
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