

others in *Amblyopone*, is also derived from an original pair of teeth, as the surviving dorsal element.

Amblyopone papuana, sp. nov.

(Figs 5-8)

Type-locality. **New Guinea:** Bulolo (7° 13' S., 146° 35' E.).

Material examined. **New Guinea:** Bulolo, Morobe district, holotype worker, 28 paratype workers, paratype dealate female, 15.ix.1970, B. B. Lowery; Kokoda, Northern District, paratype worker, 14.v.1973, P. M. Room.

The Rennell Island record is based on a provisionally identified male in CM (Taylor 1976).

Specimens from the Greenslade accessions are deposited in the ANIC. These records all comprise single worker specimens, except accessions 9919 (three workers, one illustrated in Figs 9-12) and 11,640 (alate female, wing venation illustrated in Fig. 21).

Additional Description

Worker. General features as in the accompanying figures and key couplets 1b, 2b, 3b and 4b above. Following are the dimensions of the smallest and largest of the available specimens. They are respectively from Dala, Malaita, and Mt Popamanatseu, Guadalcanal (refer above, under *A. papuana* for explanation of abbreviations): TL c. 3.2, 4.3; HL 0.69, 0.91; HW 0.60, 0.84; SL 0.39, 0.57; ML 0.46, 0.66; PW 0.39, 0.52; WL 0.87, 1.24; dorsal petiolar length 0.30, 0.40; petiolar node width 0.36, 0.48; dorsal postpetiolar length 0.24, 0.32; postpetiolar width 0.44, 0.58.

The mandibular dentition includes a minute subapical, four paired median, and two single, acute basal teeth. The anterior basal tooth is sharply pointed and the posterior has its apex narrowly rounded; there are no traces of twin elements to the basal teeth (Fig. 10).

Female. The Mt Austen female (ANIC) is small, compared to the largest worker; she has the following dimensions: TL c. 4.1; HL 0.72; HW 0.62; SL 0.38; ML 0.48; PW 0.51; WL 0.56; dorsal petiolar length 0.33; petiolar node width 0.47; dorsal postpetiolar length 0.32; postpetiolar width 0.58. Fully alate, wing venation as in Fig. 21. General features as in workers, with the usual caste differences.

Despite the wide size range of the workers, and the relatively small size of the female, all specimens studied appear to be conspecific. They show little variation in general features.

This species is abundantly distinct from the other known Melanesian, Oriental and Australian *Amblyopone* species, and is readily distinguished from the somewhat similar *A. papuana*. It is notable that the wing venation is complete, with the second and third free abscissae of the radial sector (*Rsf* 2.3) persistent, despite the small size of these ants. Other similarly small Australian and New Zealand *Amblyopone* species, members of the *saundersi* group, seem generally to have lost this vein, which is incomplete in *A. australis* and in at least some of the other large Australian species.

to *A. celata*,
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