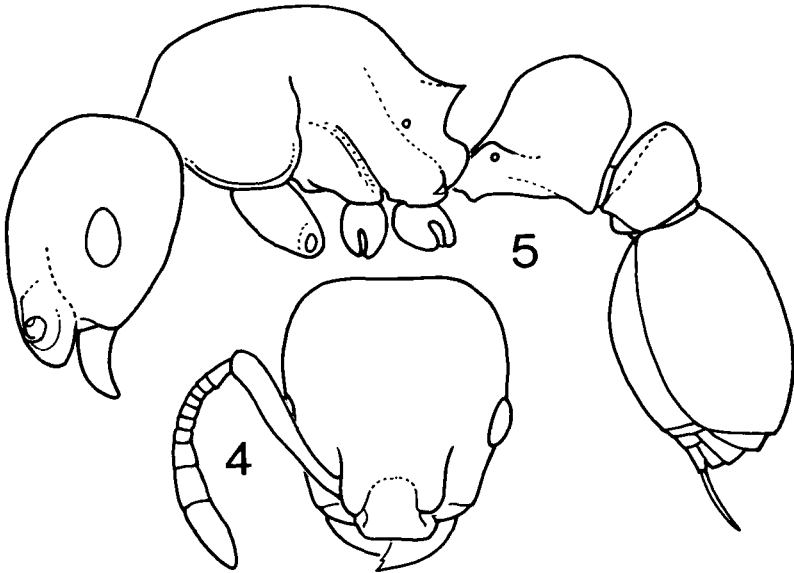


haps for good phylogenetic reasons; see below) to be the same as those used by Bolton (1982: 321) to differentiate the major myrmicine genus *Leptothorax* Mayr from *Tetramorium*. They apply similarly to *Willowsiella* and preclude classification of *Romblonella* and *Willowsiella* in tribe Tetramoriini.

Wheeler (1934, 1935) assigned both genera to "Emery's tribe Meranoplini", which then comprised the taxa indicated in Wheeler's 1935 key to meranopline genera.

Tribe Meranoplini has since been disbanded (Kugler, 1978), leaving *Meranoplus* of uncertain taxonomic position at tribal or genus-group level, perhaps peripheral to the *Pheidole* genus-group (Kugler, 1978), but with some similarities to *Willowsiella* and *Romblonella*. The latter were indicated, but considered to be of doubtful taxonomic significance by Bolton (1981), and will not be further pursued here. The other meranopline genera, with some synonymy, were considered by Bolton (1981) to be relatives of *Lordomyrma* Emery, partly to constitute the *Lordomyrma*-group of genera.



Figs 4, 5: *Willowsiella dispar* Wheeler, holotype worker: 4. head, frontal; 5. whole animal, lateral; see text for dimensions.