

NOMENCLATURE AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOME AUSTRALIAN AND NEW GUINEAN ANTS OF THE SUBFAMILY FORMICINAE (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)

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Abstract

Various Australian and New Guinean species of the formicine ant genera *Acropyga* Roger, *Camponotus* Mayr, *Echinopla* Fr. Smith, *Notoncus* Emery, *Notostigma* Emery, *Polyrhachis* Fr. Smith, *Prolasius* Forel, *Pseudonotoncus* Clark, *Stigmatopora* Forel and *Teratomyrmex* McAreavey are discussed. *Notoncus* and *Prolasius* are recorded for the first time from New Guinea. *Notoncus capitatus* Forel, *Stigmatopora foreli* Viehmayr and *S. foveolata* Viehmayr are reinstated from junior synonymy. *Prolasius nitidissimus formicoides* (Forel) and *P. hemiflavus wilsoni* McAreavey are raised to species. New synonymies (senior names listed first) are: *Acropyga acutiventris* Roger = *A. moluccana australis* Forel; *Echinopla turneri* Forel = *E. turneri picipes* Forel; *Notostigma carazzii* (Emery) = *N. podenzanai* Emery; *Prolasius convexus* McAreavey = *P. nigriventris* McAreavey; *P. flavicornis* Clark = *P. flavidiscus* McAreavey = *P. flavicornis minor* McAreavey; and *P. nitidissimus* (André) = *P. niger* Clark = *P. depressiceps similis* McAreavey. *Notostigma sanguinea* Clark is transferred to *Camponotus* as *C. johnclarki* Taylor nom.n., and *C. sanguineus* McAreavey is renamed *C. macareaveyi* Taylor nom.n., both changes due to secondary homonymy. The aggregate name *Pseudonotoncus (hirsutus)* Clark is proposed to cover the 2 nominal species of that genus. The putative dolichoderine *Turneria frenchi* Forel is declared *incertae sedis* in family Formicidae. Biological and distributional notes are given, including information on the association of the pseudococcid *Xenococcus annandalei* Silvestri with *Acropyga acutiventris*.

Introduction

Various Australian and New Guinean species of the formicine ant genera *Acropyga* Roger, *Camponotus* Mayr, *Echinopla* Fr. Smith, *Notoncus* Emery, *Notostigma* Emery, *Polyrhachis* Fr. Smith, *Prolasius* Forel, *Pseudonotoncus* Clark, *Stigmatopora* Forel and *Teratomyrmex* McAreavey are discussed below. A number of nomenclatural changes are proposed.

Notoncus and *Prolasius* are recorded for the first time from New Guinea, where they are represented respectively by the Australia-based taxa *N. gilberti* Forel and a species provisionally identified as *P. formicoides* (Forel).

The genera discussed may be identified using my recent key to the formicine genera of Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand, published with others in Hölldobler and Wilson (1990: 55-60). All are illustrated in that work (pp. 132-141). The figures include the following species reviewed here: *Acropyga acutiventris* Roger, *Echinopla australis* Forel, *Notostigma carazzii* (Emery), *Pseudonotoncus (hirsutus)* Clark, and *Teratomyrmex greavesi* McAreavey.

Types or type-compared voucher specimens of relevant species are deposited in the Australian National Insect Collection (ANIC). Specimens designated here as lectotypes or paralectotypes have been appropriately labelled.

Distributions are summarised using "short" 1 degree coordinates (e.g. 12/132), as in Taylor (1987). Citation of collection dates has been standardised; distances and elevations are stated as on the collection labels, with calculated metric conversions added for those originally in miles or feet. Publication details for species are given either in the references cited, or in Taylor and D. R. Brown (1985) or Taylor (1987). Unless otherwise noted all specimens discussed are in the ANIC, and all are workers.

Collectors indicated by their initials are BBL = B. B. Lowery, GBM = G. B. Monteith, RWT = R. W. Taylor, and TAW = T. A. Weir. N.P. = National Park, and relevant Australian States are abbreviated N.S.W., Qld, Vic. and W.A. Abbreviations for institutions which provided types on loan, with the names of cooperating curators, whose help is greatly appreciated, are: HHNM, Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest (Dr J. Papp); MCSN, Museo Civico di Storia Naturale 'Giacomo Doria', Genoa, Italy (Dr R. Poggi, Dr V. Raineri); MHNG, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland (Dr C. Besuchet); MVMA, Museum of Victoria, Melbourne (K. Walker); OXUM, University Museum, Oxford, U.K. (Drs C. O'Toole, I. Lansbury); QMBA, Queensland Museum, Brisbane (E. C. Dahms and Dr G. B. Monteith); ZMHB, Museum für Naturkunde, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany (Drs E. Königsmann, F. Koch).