

Holotype. Worker, 3. VIII. 1980, Fenchihu (alt. ca. 1,400 m), Chiayi Hsien, Taiwan, M. TERAYAMA leg.

Paratypes. Five workers, 4 alate females, from the same nest as holotype.

Type depository. The holotype and some paratypes will be deposited in the National Science Museum, Tokyo, and the other paratypes in the National Institute of Agro-Environmental Science, Japan, and the Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute.

Remarks. This new species is distinguished easily from the other species by the combination of the following characters: size relatively small (HL 0.76–0.80 mm, HW 0.58–0.60 mm); narrow head (CI 74–79); shape of petiole; long scapes which exceed the median occipital border (SI 101–109); presence of mesonotal-propodeal suture on the dorsum of alitrunk.

Ponera chiponensis sp. nov.

(Figs. 6–10)

Holotype worker. HL 0.53 mm; HW 0.40 mm; SL 0.35 mm; CI 80; SI 84; WL 0.73 mm; PW 0.73 mm; PH 0.31 mm; PNL 0.18 mm; DPW 0.25 mm; TL ca. 2.0 mm.

Head subrectangular, with weakly convex sides and slightly concave occipital border. Mandibles with 3 developed teeth occupying approximately apical 2/5 of masticatory border; remaining border with a series of 5 small regular denticles. Clypeus slightly produced in the middle, with very weak median tooth. Eyes extremely small, composed of single facet, situated about $0.8\times$ the distance from lateral occipital border to midpoint of anterior genal border. Antennae 12-segmented, remarkably short and thick; scape not reaching median occipital border; antennal club 5-segmented, ratio of length from the base about 3:5:6:6:14, apical segment $1.75\times$ as long as broad.

Dorsal outline of alitrunk horizontal; mesonotum weakly convex; posterolateral corners of propodeum not markedly pronounced, forming blunt angles; declivitous face of propodeum barely straight to feebly concave. Mesonotal-propodeal suture not incised on the dorsum of alitrunk. Petiolar node in profile, thick, rectangular; anterior border straight, dorsal border horizontal, posterior border very weakly angulated near the middle; dorsal face, viewed from above, trapezoidal as in Fig. 8, posterior border concaved. Fenestra of subpetiolar process large, oval; posterolateral teeth well developed.

Head, scapes, and gaster closely punctated; alitrunk less density punctated than head; 2nd gastric tergite somewhat less punctated than 1st gastric tergite. Posterior 1/2 of dorsal face of propodeum and dorsal face of petiolar node smooth and shining with a few scattered punctures. Mandibles smooth and shining. Pubescence moderately abundant, distributed evenly over the entire body. Erect or suberect pilosity present on antennal scapes, head, dorsum of alitrunk, and gaster.