of the wing base and tegules, suggesting brachyptery. Silvery pubescence over entire pronotum, metanotum and pleurae.

Thick, scale-like petiole slightly pointed at the apex. Gaster similar to that of the worker in size, colour and texture.

Variability: Same dual colouration as in worker. The differences in this caste occur in the degree of development of the mesonotum, apparent in a possible reduction in the scutellum size, with disappearance of the sutures and wing loss leaving only stumps.

Paratype males (Fig. 2- C, F; Fig. 3; Table 4): Head, pronotum and scutum black, the rest of the body dark grey; antennae, petiole and legs lighter. Wings somewhat darker with strongly marked nervation. Tegument microsculptured, especially on scutum.

Head ovoid, surface microsculptured, with some pubescence and silky shine. Mandibles with only one tooth and without striations. Maxillary palps with the last two articles equal in length and together the same length as the fourth. Scape projecting half its length beyond the occipital edge, funiculus of twelve very similar cylindrical articles. Eyes compound, situated in the posterior half of the genae. Ocelli normal.

Thorax massive, as wide as the head. Scutum and scutellum well developed, metanotum small. Some short hairs on the scutum, sparse pubescence. Petiole scale-like, thick and with indented apex. Gaster microsculpted and with light pubescence.

Genitalia: stipites elongated and oval; most characteristic are finger-like processes at the external base of stipites. The volsellas and lacinias also very elongated, the volsella slightly flanged at the end. The terminal end of the sagitta in the form of a curved peak, on the border appearing 6 or 7 small teeth, separate and triangular. The subgenital plate concave with a slight elevation in the center of the depression.

Variability: two males from bicolour nests were bicoloured, but in reverse pattern to the workers, i.e. red gaster and legs, and the rest black. Apart from size, as will be discussed later, the only appreciable variation in general appearance is in the mandibular tooth, which can be very small. The genitalia are very uniform, differences appearing only in the number of sagittal teeth, which can reach a total of eleven. The other variation is found in the subgenital plate, in which the central elevation can be absent.

Affinities

Based on the type of petiole and the male genitalia, *C. floricola* nov. sp. is included in the *emmae*-group (AGOSTI, 1990) composed by *C. emmae* and an undescribed species from Pakistan (AGOSTI, 1990). The most important differences to *C. emmae* are that workers of *C. floricola* are monomorphic and their tegument is mat. The females are smaller (HL=1.29 (*C. floricola* = *C.f.*), 1.75 (*C.emmae* = *C.e.*); TL= 2.24 (*C.f.*), 2.78 (*C.e.*)) and they are brachypterous or wingless. Finally, the males are also smaller (HL= 1.16 *(C.f.*), 1.31 (*C.e.*); TL= 2.4 (*C.f.*), 2.55 (*C.e.*)), and differ in the genitalia, mainly in the sagitta, volsella and lacinia (Figs 2, 3 and 4).

With regard to species which are geographically closer, the only species with which this one might be confused (and confusion seems to have occurred on many occasions, as discussed above) are *C. rosenhaueri* and *C. iberica*. In both cases the workers can be easily distinguished by their iow, nodiform petioles (Fig. 4 - L, M). In addition the micro-punctuated texture of *C. floricola* and its silky, muted shine can help distinguish this species, but this difference is more evident between the