

spinules long, isolated or in short rows; dorsal portion raised into a transverse densely spinulose ridge, the spinules long, slender and in numerous subtransverse rows; palp a short cylinder with 4 apical sensilla; opening of sericteries wide and salient. Hypopharynx densely spinulose, the spinules long and slender, in numerous long transverse subparallel rows. (Material studied: one larva from Turrialba, Costa Rica, January 1973, courtesy of Dr. W. L. Brown.)

Larvae of *Mesoponera stigma* from different localities are so different that they merit separate descriptions. All are so similar to *M. constricta* (1952: 624) that only differences are given.

***Mesoponera stigma* (Fabricius)**

Length (through spiracles) about 3.8 mm. Tubercles cone-shaped ventrally, boss-shaped laterally and dorsally; 131, distributed thus: T1-T3 and AI, 12 each; AII, 10 and 2 vestiges; AIII-AV, 10 and a middorsal boss each; AVI-AVIII, 10 each; AIX, 6; AX, 2 low cones; integument with fewer encircling rows of spinules. Body hairs minute (about 0.006 mm long). Antennae farther apart. Head hairs shorter (about 0.006 mm long). Labrum with 3 minute hairs and about 11 sensilla on each lobe; rows of spinules on posterior surface fewer and forming reticulate patterns. Mandibles with fewer rows of minute spinules. Maxillae with apex covered with larger spinules. Labium with fewer spinules, the spinules shorter and in short arcuate rows.

YOUNG LARVA.—Length (through spiracles) about 2.6 mm. Similar to mature larva except as follows. Tubercles 121, distributed thus: T1-T3, AII and AIII, 12 each; AI 10 and 2 vestigial; AIV and AVIII, 10 each; AV-AVII, 10 and a large middorsal boss each; AIX, 6; AX, 2. Body hairs about 0.003 mm long. Head with short rows of spinules laterally. Maxillae with minute spinules on apex. Labial palp a slightly raised cluster of 4 sensilla; opening of sericteries a transverse slit with slightly raised dorsal and ventral lips.

VERY YOUNG LARVA.—Length (through spiracles) about 1.4 mm. Similar to mature except as follows. Tubercles all low bosses with apical sensilla but without lateral spinules; 110, distributed thus: T1, AI-AVII, 10 each; T2, T3 and AVIII, 8 each; AIX, 6; AX, 2. Spiracles on T2 and T3 vestigial; abdominal larger and subequal. Integument with minute spinules in short rows on dorsum of posterior somites and on venter; none on tubercles. Labrum erectile; with minute spinules on posterior surface. Mandibles with straight apex and very small teeth. Maxillae with minute spinules. Labium with very short rows of minute spinules; palp represented by a cluster of sensilla; opening of sericteries a transverse slit. Hypopharynx densely spinulose, the spinules minute.