

New Mexico: Alamogordo (H. L. Viereck, G. v. Krockow, A. G. Ruthven).

Arizona: Ash Fork and Tucson (Wheeler); Cochise County, 300-1500 m. (C. R. Biedemann).

This subspecies is certainly distinct from the typical *melliger* and is readily recognized by its more abundant and more silvery pubescence and pilosity, and the peculiar orbicular head of the worker major, which is sharply separated from the long-headed minor workers and may be compared with the singular soldier of the north African *M. bombycinus*, although the orb-headed form occurs in greater numbers in the colony.

3. *Myrmecocystus melliger mendax* subsp. nov.

(Fig. 4.)

Worker major. Length 6-7 mm.

Differing from the worker major of *orbiceps* as follows: Head smaller and rectangular, as broad as long, excluding the mandibles, with straight, subparallel sides, straight posterior border and rounded posterior angles. Cheeks not inflated. Color of the head a duller red and the infuscation of the thorax deeper, extending further forward and involving the pronotum. Silvery gray pubescence somewhat less abundant and erect hairs stouter and more obtuse, especially on the gaster.

Worker minor. Length 4-5.5 mm.

Like the corresponding form of *orbiceps*, except that the head is dark red behind, the hairs more obtuse and the pubescence somewhat sparser.

Female. Length 9-10 mm.

Resembling the female of *orbiceps* but with the thorax yellowish red, like the head, with the epinotum, pleuræ behind and below, and clouds on the parapsides and anteromedian portion of the mesonotum, fuscous. The legs, too, are paler than in *orbiceps*.

Male. Length 5-6 mm.

Head, including the eyes, as long as broad, narrowed in the region of the cheeks, which are longer than the eyes and somewhat concave. Mandibles larger, with two teeth, one apical, the other near the middle of the blade. Antennal scapes long and slender, first funicular joint enlarged distally, about three times as long as broad; remaining joints narrower, subequal and cylindrical. Thorax robust, broader than the head, shaped somewhat like that of the female. Petiole like that of the worker, but more acute above in profile. Genitalia resembling those of *Prenolepis*. Legs very slender, with large claws and pulvilli. Wings large, with well-developed discoidal cell.

Body shining, finely and irregularly punctate. Mandibles subopaque, not striated.

Hairs and pubescence similar to those of the worker, but the hairs more tapering and flexuous, and the pubescence more dilute, so that the surface of the body is more exposed.