

Body concolorous medium reddish brown, appendages a lighter shade of light reddish brown.

Holotype, worker (CAS), Maffin Bay, Neth. New Guinea, 1 July 1944, E. S. Ross.

DISTRIBUTION: New Guinea.

### 3. *Cerapachys* (C.) *flavaclavata* Donisthorpe

*Cerapachys* (*Cerapachys*) *flavaclavata* Donisthorpe, 1938, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 11, 2: 499 (worker; type locality: Sabron, 400 m, Cyclops Mts., Neth. New Guinea).—Wilson, 1958, Insectes Sociaux 5: 129 (behavior).

DISTRIBUTION: New Guinea.

NETH. NEW GUINEA: Sabron (syntype examined, MCZ). NE NEW GUINEA: lower Busu River, Wilson, nos. 939, 985.

Both of my collections of this distinctive little species were made from the floor of primary lowland rain forest. The raid of a colony (no. 985) against a colony of *Pheidole* sp. has been reported (Wilson, 1958).

### 4. *Cerapachys* (C.) *inconspicua* Emery

*Cerapachys inconspicua* Emery, 1902, Termész. Füz. 25: 153 (worker; type locality: Sattelberg, NE New Guinea).

*Cerapachys terricola* Mann, 1919, Mus. Comp. Zool., Bull. 63: 277 [worker, male; type locality: Malapaina, Three Sisters Group, Solomons (by present restriction)]. **New Synonymy.**

*Cerapachys terricola* subsp. *tulagi* Mann, 1919, *op. cit.*, p. 279 (worker, male; type locality: Tulagi, Florida I., Solomons). **New Synonymy.**

DISTRIBUTION: New Guinea, Solomon Is.

NETH. NEW GUINEA: Maffin Bay, E. S. Ross. NE NEW GUINEA: Sattelberg (syntype examined, Emery coll.); lower Busu River, Wilson, no. 930. SOLOMON IS.: Malapaina (*terricola* syntypes examined, MCZ); Tulagi, Florida I. (*tulagi* syntypes examined, MCZ).

This widespread species seems to be most closely related to *muii* Wheeler and Chapman of the Philippines, *flavaclavata* Donisthorpe of New Guinea, and *vitiensis* Mann of Fiji. In describing *terricola* and *tulagi*, Mann used as an example of "*inconspicua*" a single worker from Fulakora, Santa Isabel. His comparative diagnosis seems to suggest that the latter specimen, which I have not seen, may belong to an undescribed species differing from the true *inconspicua* by characters in mandibular sculpturing and antennal form.

*C. inconspicua* shows marked internidal variation in the limited samples thus far examined. This variation is "bipolar" in nature, i.e. ranges between two extreme forms that encompass all of the extreme characters and includes a gradient of intermediate forms. In the sections below the principal variable characters are described briefly with reference to individual nest series.

*Maffin Bay, Neth. New Guinea.* HW 0.49–0.50 mm. Thoracic dorsum bearing scattered, well developed foveolae; sides of propodeum covered with irregular sculpturing dense enough to scatter reflected light; dorsa of petiole and postpetiole covered by foveolae separated from one another by spaces approximately equal in width to foveolar diameters