



Fig. 12. *Tapinoma trochis* holotype worker: A, lateral view; B, dorsal view.

The living species of *Leptomyrmex* are confined to Australia and Melanesia. All of the other ants thus far discovered in the Dominican amber belong to modern Neotropical genera and, in many cases, living species groups. Hence, as Baroni Urbani (1980) himself noted in his original description, the occurrence of *Leptomyrmex* in the West Indian ant fauna during Dominican amber times would constitute a considerable biogeographic anomaly. The situation is confused by the poor condition and uncertain anatomy of the *Leptomyrmex neotropicus* types, all 8 of which are in the same piece of amber.