



Fig. 1. *Sphecomyrma canadensis*, holotype worker: A, frontal view of head; B, left antenna, dorsal view; C, gaster, petiole, and left rear leg, with enlarged views of the rear-leg tibial comb and spur and tip of abdomen (showing the extruded sting); D, left front tarsus.

These are the first ants recorded from the Canadian amber, despite the fact that thousands of pieces containing large numbers of insects of diverse orders have been processed since the late nineteenth century (Carpenter *et al.*, 1937; Rice, 1980). The holotype (and by inference the paratype) is so close to *S. freyi* in key characters that it can be placed with certainty in the Sphecomyrminae and with reasonable confidence in *Sphecomyrma*, providing we use the same anatomical standards by which the modern subfamilies and genera of ants are distinguished. The resemblance is well marked,