

*Tetramorium solidum* Emery subsp. *tuckeri* Arnold n. comb.

(Figs 5-7, 28A, B)

*Tetramorium solidum* Emery var. *tuckeri* Arnold, 1923 n. syn.

♀ (The head, truncus and first node of petiole intact, the second node and abdomen broken off.)

HL 1.40 mm; WL 1.44 mm; PL 0.38 mm; HFL 1.30 mm; MFL 1.10 mm; ED 1.16 mm; SL 0.94 mm; CL 0.34 mm; FL 1.06 mm; L (length from apex of clypeus to apex of petiolar node) 3.68 mm; CI 104.3; CTI 97.2; CLI 300; FI 109.4; SI 58.9; TI 59.7; PI 121.1.

Arnold gives the colour as black, but the type specimen in the collection is light castaneous to dark brick red, the antennae, mandibles and legs, except the middle portions of the femora which are of the same colour as the body, ferruginous. Almost dull, or with a very slight gloss, more shining than *solidum*, the sculpture similar to that of the latter, but stronger, the head more evenly striate, the declivity of the epinotum as coarsely and transversely striate (and reticulate).

The head is slightly wider than long, two-fifths wider than the truncus, the sides almost straight, the hind margin shallowly excised in the middle; the eyes large, occupying nearly two-sevenths of the length of the head. Frontal area indistinct, frontal sulcus obsolete, the frontal carinae wide apart, extending to about the middle of the head. Anterior face of clypeus less rounded than in *solidum*; the scapes not reaching the hind margin of the head by about one-quarter of their length.

Truncus about two-fifths longer than wide over the pronotum and about two-thirds wider in front than over the bases of the spines. The pronotum is margined in front, much more so than in *solidum* and the dorsum of the epinotum when seen in profile appears to be somewhat concave (slightly convex in the latter); the meso-epinotal suture is present as a wide notch and just behind this notch on the middle line is a small tooth-like prominence or tubercle. The pro-mesonotal suture which is absent in the type of the species and its other varieties, clearly demarcates the mesonotum. Sides of the epinotal dorsum almost parallel, the declivity vertical, the spines short, shorter than wide at the base and slightly longer than the episternal.

First node of petiole, seen from above, oval and slightly more than one-fifth wider than long, slightly wider behind than in front, both anterior and posterior margins convex, the latter somewhat angular in the middle; in profile it is quadrate as in *solidum*, the dorsum being almost straight, the hind face inclined backwards, forming an angle with the dorsum; subpetiolar process present as a minute rounded tooth or denticle.

Type: 1 ♀ Brehden, South West Africa, 20 December 1915 (R. W. E. Tucker).

In other specimens collected in Brehden, South West Africa (20 December 1915) (TL 5.0-5.2 mm; L 3.6 mm; PPI 200) the pro-mesonotal suture is almost