

Arnold (1917) mentions one-fifth; this could be true if the mandibles are included) and one-third wider than the pronotum, quadrate, the sides almost parallel, the hind margin slightly concave. When viewed from above the mandibles extend further beyond the anterior margin of the clypeus than in *solidum* and its varieties, making the head appear even longer. *Frontal area* present as an indistinct triangular impression, traversed by the median stria. *Frontal carinae* almost parallel, extending nearly to the hind margin, but not forming scrobes. *Eyes* fairly convex, situated in the middle of the sides and occupying nearly one-fifth of the length of the head. *Scapes* not reaching the hind margin of the head; they are about three-fifths the length of the flagellum; 2nd-8th joints wider than long, the rest longer than wide.

Truncus about twice as long as wide and about two-thirds wider over the pronotum than over the bases of the spines, the shoulders less pronounced than in *solidum*, the pro-mesonotal suture faintly indicated as a very shallow impression; meso-epinotal suture indicated on the sides where the truncus is also somewhat constricted, the demarcation of the two segments on the dorsum indicated by short longitudinal rugae; the mesonotum appearing margined on each side. In profile the dorsum is less convex, almost flat, the *spines* short, as long as the episternal, directed upwards, slightly shorter than wide at the base and much shorter than the interval between their bases; the *declivity* of the epinotum almost vertical and shorter than the dorsum. The *first node* seen from above almost conical, the sides, hind and front margins convex, as long as wide, narrowed upwards towards the median line; when seen from the side, the front and hind faces almost vertical, about one-fifth higher than long, the peduncle shorter than the node, the subpetiolar process present as a rounded tooth pointing forward. *Second node* oval when viewed from above, about three-tenths wider than long and about as high as wide; from the side the dorsum is convex and the subpostpetiolar process almost as in *peringueyi*. *Abdomen* only narrowly truncate at the base. *Legs* fairly short, the femora more swollen than in *solidum*.

Material: 1 ♀, Park Ryne, Natal, 1914 (G. Arnold).

The locality is the same as that of the type.

Very different from the other species mentioned here by the longer head and the first node which is narrowed upwards. It has been collected only along the south coast of Natal.

KEY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE SPECIES

In view of the fact that some of the early myrmecologists have been in error concerning the length of the epinotal spines of these species, it is quite clear that the keys for identification of these groups of ants (Arnold 1923: 244-245, couplets 83-102) should be altered as follows:

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| (96) | 83 | Epinotal spines or teeth distinctly longer than wide at the base (or about as long in <i>vexator</i> and <i>solidum signata</i>) |
| (91) | 84 | No demiscrobes present (or only a very slight trace of it, hardly described as demiscrobes) |