

Petiole emarginate above. Postpetiole broader than petiole, with rounded node. Gaster truncate.

Worker: Occipital margin of head shallowly emarginate or rounded. Mandible usually with two or three apical teeth followed by a row of uneven denticulae. Palp formula and antenna as in soldier. Trunk as in soldier but less raised pro- and mesonotum. Petiole and postpetiole more slender than in soldier.

Female: Head rectangular. Ocelli present. Occipital margin of head slightly concave or straight in the middle. Mandible like that of soldier. Trunk massive, broad, flat above; scutum overhanging pronotum; metanotum compressed; propodeal spines stout and short. Petiole, postpetiole and gaster like those of soldier, but more massive.

Male: Head much smaller than trunk. Eye large and prominent. Ocelli present. Mandible slender. Antenna 13-segmented, filiform; scape short; basal segment of flagellum globose. Trunk massive; scutum and scutellum slightly convex; pronotum and metanotum as in female; propodeal spines reduced, usually forming obtuse lobes. Fore wing with an open radial, two cubital and a discoidal cells. Subgenital plate pentagonal; basal margin with a distinct projection in the middle. In species examined, ventrodiscal margin of aedeagus concave in lateral view.

Key to Species of Japanese *Pheidole*

Soldier and Worker

1. Head of worker with flat or slightly concaved posterior border but without distinct occipital collar in full face view; surface of occiput of worker rugulose; apical segment of antenna more than twice as long as antennal segment X in soldier and worker.....2
- Head of worker with rounded posterior border and with low but distinct occipital collar in full face view; surface of occiput of worker smooth and shining; apical segment of antenna less than twice as long as antennal segment X in soldier and worker.....4
2. Small-sized species, HW 0.45 mm or less in worker, and HW 1.04 mm or less in soldier; in soldier, pronotum and mesonotum forming a single convexity in lateral view.....*pieli* SANTSCHI
- Medium-sized species, HW 0.48 mm or more in worker, and HW 1.20 mm or more in soldier; in soldier, mesonotal region raised, so that pronotum and mesonotum forming a sinuate convexity in lateral view.....3
3. In soldier, antennal scrobes rather long, beyond the level of eyes in full face view; head of soldier, excluding mandibles, slightly longer than broad (CI 98 or more); in worker, HL 0.56 mm or more.....*fervida* Fr. SMITH
- In soldier, antennal scrobes shorter, not beyond the level of eyes in full face view; head of soldier, excluding mandibles, distinctly longer than broad (CI 94 or less); in worker, HL 0.53 mm or less.....*ryukyuensis* n. sp.