

Collected by J. W. T. Armstrong.

*Type locality*: Nyngan, N.S.W.

*Material examined*: Six females and ten workers. The workers show considerable variation in colour.

This species differs from *X. turneri* Forel in colour and in the sculpture of the nodes and gaster. The posterior border of the head is straight, not strongly concave. The eyes are placed at the middle not before the middle of the sides of the head. The petiole is broader in front than behind. The specimens are larger than those of *X. turneri* var. *fuscipes* Viehmeyer, and the petiole and the postpetiole are broader, and the sculpture is different.

*Types*: Holotype worker in collection at C.S.I.R., Canberra.

Genus DACRYON Forel 1895.

∩∩ DACRYON MARGINATUS SP. NOV. (Text-figs. 26-29.)

*Worker.*

Length, 4.5-5 mm. Head, antennae, thorax, petiole and postpetiole rich red, gaster darker, more reddish brown; legs brownish with the coxae and tarsal joints reddish; eyes, margins of head, thorax and petiole black.

Mandibles finely longitudinally striate; head densely and microscopically punctate. There are seven longitudinal ridges between the frontal carinae, and these ridges extend to the occipital border. Antennae, legs, neck, thorax, petiole, postpetiole and gaster microscopically punctate. There are a few longitudinal ridges on the thorax and nine coarser ridges on the postpetiole. First segment of the gaster is finely longitudinally striate.

Hair yellowish, confined to the clypeus and apex of the gaster. Pubescence greyish, adpressed, abundant on the funiculus.

*Head* very slightly longer than broad, with the sides feebly convex, occipital border feebly concave, the angles rounded. Mandibles triangular, with five sharp teeth; clypeus almost straight, with a slight incision in the centre; frontal area hardly noticeable; frontal carinae widely separated, raised and covering the insertions of the scapes, and extending back almost to the occiput; scape short, extending beyond the eyes by their width; first segment of the funiculus as long as the two following, second to seventh as broad as long, the remaining three segments thickened, giving the appearance of a club, the apical segment longer than the preceding but not as long as the two preceding together; eyes large, convex, placed at the middle of the sides.

*Thorax* is almost twice as long as the broadest part, which is the anterior border of the pronotum. Pronotum and mesonotum strongly margined, with anterior border convex, the pronotal angles produced forwards and outwards as blunted teeth; the sides as far as the mesonotal region almost straight. At that point on each side there is a short triangular tooth, after which the dorsum narrows to half the width of the anterior border of the pronotum. Meso-epinotal suture is deep. The strongly margined epinotum is longer than broad, with convex sides and feebly concave posterior border. The posterior corners are produced in two long-blunted spines, directed outwards and backwards, almost as long as their interval. In profile the pro-mesonotum is strongly convex, the mesonotal tooth just noticeable. The epinotum is feebly convex, about twice as long as the straight declivity. The epinotal spines almost as long as the declivity, directed upwards and slightly backwards, the edge facing the dorsum straight, the other edge convex.

Petiole broader than long, oval, the margined dome is convex and produced behind in two spines which are directed slightly upwards as well as backwards. In profile longer than high, wedge-shaped. The anterior face is straight, and sloping inwards to the apex of the node and terminating above in a short, sharp spine. Dorsum almost missing, the posterior face concave. Postpetiole broader than long (one and a half times), with convex borders. In profile it is longer than the petiole, dome-shaped; the anterior face almost straight, and parallel to the anterior face of the petiole; the dorsum and the