

*Thorax* nearly twice as long as the broadest part, which is at the pronotum; pronotum one and a half times as broad as long, rounded in front, with feebly convex sides. On the front of the pronotum is a sharp semicircular ridge or margin which extends some way back along the sides. Pro-mesonotal suture is distinct; mesonotum broader than long; meso-epinotal suture feebly marked. The meso-epinotum is nearly twice as long as broad in front, compressed laterally behind so that the dorsum at the epinotum is reduced to a sharp ridge. In profile the whole dorsum of the thorax forms a single strong convexity, with the pronotal region slightly flattened. The epinotal declivity is feebly concave with the stigmata near the base very distinct. Node twice as broad as long, elliptical. In profile thorn-like, twice as high as long, the anterior face convex, merging into the dorsum. The apex is sharp and the posterior face is straight and almost vertical. Gaster small and ovate. Legs robust.

*Worker minor.*

Length, 4.5 mm. Colour, sculpture and pilosity as in major.

Head as broad as long, broader behind than in front with convex sides and occipital border. The scape extends beyond the occiput by a third of its length. Eyes large, convex, are placed at the posterior corners of the head. The thorax as in major but the meso-epinotal suture is missing. All the rest as in the major worker.

Collected by J. W. T. Armstrong.

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

*Material examined:* A large series of major and minor workers which shows very little variation.

The species is smaller than most Australian Myrmogonia and the vivid red thorax and shining black head and gaster readily distinguish it from all other species.

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

TRIBE MELOPHORINI Forel 1912.

GENUS MELOPHORUS Lubbock, 1883.

*Melophorus* Lubbock, *Journ. Linn. Soc. Lond.*, Zool., 17, p. 51, 188.

*Melophorus sens. str.* Wheeler, *Psyche*, 42, p. 70, 1935.

✓ *MELOPHORUS (MELOPHORUS) BRUNEA* SP. NOV. (Text-figs. 57-65.)

*Worker maxima.*

Length, 4 mm. Dark brown with the thorax slightly lighter than the head and gaster; legs, antennae, mandibles, clypeus and cheeks more yellow.

Mandibles smooth; head almost smooth, very faintly reticulate on the sides of the clypeus, the reticulation tends to be transverse; thorax reticulate but slightly coarser than on the head, and the epinotum is almost reticulate-punctate; gaster smooth and shining with faint reticulations similar to those of the head.

Hair yellowish, long, erect on clypeus, shorter on the rest of the body. Pubescence yellowish, short, adpressed, confined to the antennae and legs.

*Head*, excluding the mandibles, as long as broad with very feebly convex sides and occipital border, the posterior corners rounded. Mandibles large, triangular, with four strong teeth; clypeus large, convex, rounded and entire on anterior border; frontal area triangular and distinct; frontal carinae short and parallel. Scape fails to reach the occipital border by twice its width; first segment of the funiculus as long as the two following, second shorter than the third, as broad as long, apical segment just slightly longer than the second last; eyes large, convex, placed at the middle of the sides; ocelli very small but distinct.

*Thorax* half as broad as the head, and nearly twice as long as broad; pronotum as broad as long, very convex in all directions; mesonotum almost circular; pro-mesonotal suture distinct. There is a rather broad interval between the mesonotum and epinotum and the stigmata of the dorsum are very distinct. Epinotum is less than half as broad as the mesonotum, almost square, with the sides and the posterior border straight. In