Ponera trigona Mayr

(Figs. 10, 11)

Ponera punctatissima var. trigona Mayr, 1887, Verh. Zool.-bot. Ges. Wien 37: 537 (Worker, female; Brazil: Santa Catarina).

Mayr described this species upon several specimens which are specifically distinct. At any rate, three workers, labelled "trigona" "Typus", received from the Mayr collection (NHMW), represent three discrete species. In order to fix the identity of trigona and avoid further confusion, I presently select a lectotype specimen, which may be characterized as follows:

Worker (lectotype). — Total length 3.4 mm; head length 0.73 mm; head width 0.59 mm; maximum expansion of frontal lobes 0.17 mm; scape length 0.59 mm; thorax length 0.99 mm; pronotum width 0.45 mm; hind femur length 0.61 mm; petiole length 0.23 mm; petiole width 0.36 mm; petiole height 0.48 mm; postpetiole length 0.43 mm; postpetiole width 0.56 mm. Brownish-black to piceous; mandibles, funiculus and legs brown. Integument rather shining.

Head as shown in Fig. 10. Mandibles smooth and shining, with sparse piligerous punctures: chewing border with a prominent apical tooth, two lesser subapical teeth and basad with a series of 7-8 indistinct, irregular, small denticles. Clypeus oblique in side-view; anterior border strongly convex in the middle. Eyes very small, seemingly of one facet, but consisting of about half a dozen minute and ill-defined ommatidia, strikingly removed caudad from clypeal border. Occipital border very faintly excised, almost straight. Scape densely but superficially punctate, quite shining, surpassing the occipital border by a distance which is less than its maximum thickness, when laid back over the head as much as possible. Funicular segments I and XI much longer than broad, II, VII-X about as long as broad, III-VI distinctly transverse. Dorsum of head covered with dense and fine punctulae, the intervals shining and smooth; sculpture fading towards the sides of head, becoming obsolete on disc of gular face.

Thorax as shown in Fig. 11. Dorsum in profile continuous, gently curved. Pronotum smooth and shining with relatively sparse and fine punctulae. Mesonotum broader than long, transversely strongly convex, with the same sculpture as on pronotum; lateral borders marked by impressed sutures. Mesoepinotal suture weak, scarcely impressed. Epinotum gable-like, strongly compressed laterally, the basal face reduced to a narrow transversely convex ridge, which is as long as the declivous face. The latter forming