

A NEW SPECIES AND TWO NEW NAMES OF THE  
*POLYRHACHIS* ANTS (Hymenoptera : Formicidae)By Akey C. F. Hung<sup>1</sup>

The formicine genus *Polyrhachis* is a large group confined mostly to the tropics of the Old World. It was first established by Billberg in 1820 under the generic name *Myrma* (Wheeler 1911), but the current generic name *Polyrhachis* was introduced by Fr. Smith in 1858. The validity of these two generic names and the taxonomic status of the 19 subgenera in this genus will be discussed elsewhere by the author. A new species from Australia is described in this paper. Besides, two new names are also proposed. There are several other homonyms noticed in this genus. However, since their taxonomic statuses are not verified, the proposal of new names is not yet necessary. The measurements and indices used here are essentially derived from Brown (1953) with some modifications:-

Head width (HW)- maximum width of the head, measured from gena to gena immediately below the eyes with the face in full view.

Head length (HL)- length of the head, held in perfect full face, measured from the anteriormost point of the clypeal border to the posteriormost point of the occipital border.

Scape length (SL) - maximum length of the scape with the basal "neck" excluded.

Cephalic index (CI) -  $HW \times 100 / HL$ .

Scape index (SI) -  $SL \times 100 / HW$ .

Pronotal width (PW) - maximum width of the pronotum measured between points of the humeral angles.

Propodeal width - maximum width of the propodeum measured along its anterior border.

Propodeal length - maximum length of the propodeum measured from its anterior border to the posterior border between the teeth.

***Polyrhachis pseudothrinax* sp. nov.** (Figs. 1-6)

*Holotype worker*: HW 1.84 mm, HL 2.09 mm, SL 2.17 mm, CI 88, SI 118, PW 1.67

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