

TAXONOMY OF THE SPECIES

Amblyopone pluto, n. sp.

WORKER, COMPOSITE DESCRIPTION.—TL 5.66–6.38 mm, HL 1.08–1.17 mm, HW 0.94–1.08 mm, CI 87–96, AL 1.53–1.75 mm, PL 0.67–0.85 mm, GL 2.11–2.43 mm, scape length 0.67–0.72 mm, length of petiolar node 0.67–0.81 mm, width of node 0.81–0.90 mm, hind femur length 0.76–0.85 mm.

Habitus as shown in Fig. 2. Head and alitrunk black to dark reddish-orange (fully pigmented?); genae, clypeus, and frontal carinae of head, and ventrolateral margins of alitrunk often lighter, approaching a yellowish-orange; gaster dark brown to reddish-orange; petiole (abdominal segment II) sometimes black dorsally; legs rufous to yellow; antennae dark rufous to yellowish-red and always lighter in color than head.

Head as shown in Fig. 4. Genal angle rounded, not prolonged into a genal tooth; frons and genae coarsely punctate, although frons is less so and glossy; eyes greatly reduced, usually with 10 or fewer facets, greatest diameter less than 0.09 mm. Frontal carinae widely separated, strongly diverging from midsagittal line caudad; carinae not prominent but enlarge to form widely separated, expansive frontal lobes which conceal the antennal sockets in dorsal view. Areas surrounding antennal sockets deeply depressed and sculptured with striae which sweep out from the sockets. Clypeus concave medially, descending sharply from area between frontal lobes and bearing a row of elongate tubercles, usually 9–11, the longest (as long as 0.10 mm) placed medially while those placed laterally decrease in length sequentially; clypeal tubercles appear flattened dorso-ventrally and are rounded or truncated apically. Antennae 12-segmented; scape almost straight in dorsal view (Fig. 18).

Internal margin of mandible broadly convex (Fig. 8); masticatory margin smoothly continuous with basal margin; internal margin with a conspicuous, elongated apical tooth followed closely by a conical 1st subapical, 2nd subapical often truncated, 3rd subapical followed by as many as 7 or 8 additional teeth which become progressively more rounded and shorter proximad, teeth single ranked. Labrum cleft medially along distal margin (Fig. 7); lateral margin slightly concave along distal two-thirds, deeply notched along proximal third; numerous setae inserted along distal margin and on extensor surface. Maxillary palpus 4-segmented (Fig. 10). Stipes with a conspicuous transverse stipital groove which curves distad, running longitudinally along external face and ending at the level of palpal insertion; lateral shoulder well developed (Fig. 10). Galea with a typically well-developed maxillary comb (Fig. 9); galeal crown with numerous long setae, including a series of closely arranged setae (usually 7) forming a distinct comb; galeal comb present and composed of 6 or 7 peglike setae. Lacinia triangular with a distinct lacinial comb along $\frac{2}{3}$ of free margin (Fig. 9).

Labial palpus 2-segmented (Fig. 11); subglossal brushes well developed; paraglossae absent.

Alitrunk finely punctate, punctures far less numerous per unit of area than on head; surface of integument otherwise smooth and glossy, particularly on dorsum; areas immediately above insertions of 2nd and 3rd coxae and covering bullae of metapleural glands impressed with a series of longitudinal striae. Declivity of propodeum steep and slightly concave. Petiolar node with vertical, flat anterior face, rounding off into the dorsal face at a slightly larger than 90° angle.

Gastral tergites finely punctate, punctures widely scattered; surface of tergum otherwise smooth and glossy except for opaque acrotergites. Sternites of gaster more coarsely punctate, not as smooth or glossy.

Head moderately pubescent, with numerous short, erect and suberect setae, primarily on frons. Ali-

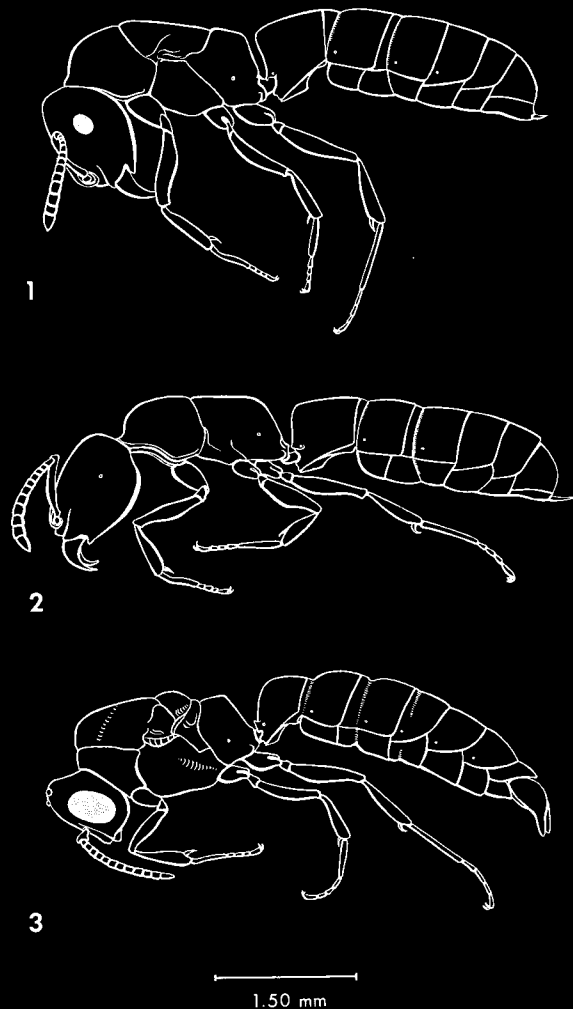


FIG. 1–3.—*A. pluto*, habitus drawings, pilosity omitted. 1, Queen, lateral view, wings omitted. 2, Worker, lateral view. 3, Male, lateral view, wings omitted.