

50. *Pheidole ridicula* Wheeler

Ph. ridicula Wheeler, Proc. New Eng. Zool. Club, 1916, 6, p. 29, 24; Creighton, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 1950, 104, p. 188.

Type locality: Brownsville, Texas

51. *Pheidole rugulosa* sp. nov.

MAJOR: Length, 3.62 mm.; head length (excluding mandibles), 1.08 mm.; head width, 1.0 mm.; head index, 0.93; thorax length, 0.83 mm.

Head, without the mandibles, slightly longer than broad, occipital lobes prominent but well-rounded; cephalic sulcus well-developed and rather broad toward the rear; frontal area small and depressed; clypeus with very weak median carina, its anterior border sinuate, and the median emargination very shallow. Frontal carinae short and slightly divergent. Antennae 12-segmented; scapes slender at the base, widened apically and extending $\frac{1}{2}$ or slightly more of the distance from their insertions to the occipital corners; funiculus with distinct 3-segmented club whose articles are longer than broad. Mandibles stout, abruptly curved, with two apical teeth and the remaining border edentate except for a small basal denticle. Eyes with approximately 65 facets.

Promesonotum strongly convex, descending through an obtuse angle to the mesoepinotal suture, which is impressed; humeral bosses well-defined; basal face of epinotum and the declivity subequal, and joined through an obtuse angle; epinotal spines stout but pointed. Petiole with a long anterior peduncle, anterior face of the node gently sloping, posterior face vertical, and the crest blunt, transversely flat to faintly concave. Postpetiole trapezoidal, widest anterior to the middle, the lateral angles blunt, rounded, and poorly developed. Gaster truncate at the base, and slightly smaller than the head.

Sculpture: Cephalic rugules longitudinal and fine, crossing the clypeus, frons, diverging from the carinae, and extending to the vertex where they disappear; rugules present on the genae, extending from the mandibles to a little beyond the posterior border of the eyes, and on the lateral aspects also of the gula. Transverse rugules or striae cross the occipital lobes and converge into the cephalic sulcus. Vertex, upper portions of the genae, and middle of the gula smooth and shining. Piligerous punctures coarse and deep. Dorsum of the pro-mesonotum longitudinally rugose, front of pronotum transversely rugose, subopaque to weakly shining; prothoracic pleurae longitudinally rugose-punctate, mesopleurae and epinotal pleurae punctate and opaque. Epinotal base and declivity punctate and opaque; one or two interspinal rugulae. Petiole punctate and opaque; postpetiole punctate laterally but smooth and shining dorsally. Gaster smooth and shining.

Pilosity: Hairs yellow, pointed, numerous on the head and short, mixed on the thorax, and long and numerous on the pedicel and gaster; sparse on the appendages. Pubescence limited mostly to the antennae; sparse on the legs and completely absent from the gaster.