

alitrunk in profile, pronotal dorsal outline convex, mesonotum more or less flat; metanotal groove weakly impressed, without metanotal cross-ribs; propodeum in dorsal view flat to feeble transversely concave where dorsum meets declivity; dorsal alitrunk without standing hairs, with fine and appressed pubescence; AL (alitrunk length, Weber's) 0.85 mm.

Petiole and postpetiole of equal width in dorsal view; in profile, the petiole node higher than the postpetiole; postpetiole with one pair of backward directed hairs. First gastric tergite with 0–4 standing hairs apart from apical row.

Female (figs. 1 E–G)

Length 4.85–4.95 mm; head, propodeum, petioles and gaster reddish brown; promesonotum brownish red; sculpture absent except for the hair pits, the striated mandibles, sides of head in front of and surrounding the eyes with superficial striae and frontal lobes and front with very superficial striae; posterior dorsal face of petiole with 1–2 superficial transverse striae and dorsal face of postpetiole with more developed transverse striae; in one female the first gastral tergite is weakly shagreened. Clypeus as in workers; head broader; HL 0.95 mm, HW 0.80–0.85 mm, CI 84–89; maximum diameter of eye 0.23–0.25 × HW, with 80–86 ommatidia; ocelli distinct but poorly developed; scape just reaching occiput; SL 0.78–0.80 mm, SI 94–98; SL × 100/HL 82–84; antennal club of three segments; frontal lobes short but well developed. Head very pilose, as compared with workers, with appressed pilosity and two rows of 9 hairs, diverging posteriorly, from the middle of clypeus to occipital corners; mandibles with 4 teeth; palp formula 2 : 2. Eyes with micropilosity.

Alitrunk apterous, with reduced flight sclerites; pronotum very developed, forming part of dorsal alitrunk when viewed in profile; mesoscutellum completely fused with mesoscutum, forming a flat sclerite in side view; metanotum present; propodeum with two rounded, spoon-shaped protuberances; whole alitrunk except dorsum of propodeum covered with appressed to suberect pilosity of different length. AL 1.42–1.45 mm; PW 0.55 mm.

Petiole and postpetiole very developed, with long pilosity directed backwards; petiole scale-like, with a concavity in the posterior face devoided of pilosity; petiole width 0.38 mm; postpetiole somewhat trapezoidal in dorsal view; postpetiole width 0.49 mm, whole gaster, underside also, covered with long pilosity.

Holotype: Worker, TL 2.8, HL 0.70, HW 0.55, CI 78, SL 0.62, SI 113, PW 0.35, AL 0.85; Cape Verde Islands: São Nicolau, Monte Gordo, 9.15.12.1953, LINDBERG leg. Deposited in the British Museum (Natural History).

Paratypes: 4 workers and 4 females (two of them lack head) with same data as holotype; deposited 2 workers and 2 females in the British Museum; the rest in author's collections.

The species is named after BARRY BOLTON (BMNH) – after the superb revision of afrotrropical *Monomorium* he deserves it.

SYSTEMATIC POSITION

The species is a member of the *salomonis*-group as defined by BOLTON (1987) and would not key to any similar species in the afrotrropical region; several *Monomorium* species of the *salomonis*-group have apterous or ergatoid females,