Rostromyrmex gen. n.

Type-species: Rostromyrmex pasohensis sp. n.

Diagnosis

Monomorphic ants belonging to the subfamily Myrmicinae, with the following combination of characters.

Worker. - 1. Mandibles broad triangular, 6- to 7-dentate (6-dentate in paratypes, 7-dentate in holotype, basal tooth very small; in all cases only one mandible clearly visible). Dentition decreasing in size from apex to base. Apical and subapical teeth separated from other teeth by short diastema.

- 2. Palp formula 2,2. Palpi very short, basal segment of maxillary palp distad strongly dilated (Fig. 7).
- 3. Antennae 9-segmented, with distinct, 3-segmented apical club.
- 4. Eyes strongly reduced.
- 5. Anterior clypeal margin entire, convex, with median projection beneath 'rostrum'.
- 6. Lateral portions of clypeus not raised posteriorly into a shield wall in front of antennal insertions.
- 7. Median portion of clypeus raised, forming striking prominence ('rostrum') projecting forward between levels of frontal lobes and anterior clypeal margin.
- 8. Median clypeal carina present, running from projection of anterior clypeal margin, over 'rostrum' to posterior clypeal margin.
- 9. Median clypeal seta present. Anteromedian portion of clypeus with 5 long setae: a pair laterally on 'rostrum' (anterodorsad directed), a pair beside median clypeal carina at midlength between 'rostrum' and median projection of anterior clypeal margin (anterodorsad directed), and single median seta directly above median projection of anterior clypeal margin (anteroventrad directed). Laterally of median seta 3 pairs of shorter setae. Dorsally of this row some other short setae and hairs.
- 10. Frontal lobes very closely approximated, separated by narrow median strip of cuticle which is somewhat depressed and shining.
- 11. Typical frontal triangle absent. Instead, the strip of cuticle between the frontal lobes widens posteriorly into an elongate, narrow, somewhat rhomboidal area which is depressed, smooth and shining.
- 12. Antennal scrobes present, large but shallow, deepest in the lower part near antennal sockets, and not sharply defined.

- 13. Frontal carinae very short, not extending posteriorly of frontal lobes.
- 14. A carina on ventrolateral margins of head present, extending from occipital margin approximately to eye level.
- 15. Alitrunk compact, slightly convex throughout in lateral view, propodeum separated from promesonotum by small but distinct metanotal groove which is bordered by a raised ridge posteriorly.
- 16. Pronotal angles (anterior ventrolateral margins of pronotum) sharp, but without distinct tooth.
- 17. Thorax strongly constricted laterally between mesonotum and propodeum (best seen in dorsal view).
- 18. Propodeal spines present, moderately large, directed postero dorsally and somewhat dorsally curved distad.
- 19. Propodeal spiracles conspicuous, situated above midheight and behind midlength of the propodeum, close to the margin of the declivity, some distance in from bases of propodeal spines.
- 20. Metapleural gland bullae large, a short distance from propodeal spiracles.
- 21. Propodeal lobes moderately large, broadly rounded, connected to propodeal spines by carinae. In lateral view they seem to form one carina.
- 22. Metasternal process absent.
- 23. Petiole with long peduncle and strongly developed node, spiracles located behind midlength of peduncle.
- 24. Tibial spurs absent from middle and hind legs.
- 25. First tergite forms more than half length of gastral dorsum.
- 26. Sting (Figs 10, 11) not heavily sclerotized, but probably able to sting, without any lobular flange near apex.
- 27. Entire body except gaster, legs, antennal funiculi and mandibles strongly sculptured.

Queen. - General characters as in workers, with following differences.

- 1. Slightly larger than workers.
- 2. Mandibles 7-dentate.
- 3. Segments of maxillary palp partly fused.
- 4. Eyes well developed.
- 5. Alitrunk slightly convex as in workers, but propodeum on lower level, separated from remaining alitrunk by a deep step.
- 6. Thorax not strongly constricted laterally between mesonotum and propodeum.