

TWO NEW SPECIES OF *PRISTOMYRMEX* MAYR (HYM.
FORMICIDAE), WITH SOME NOTES ON THE GENUS

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Pristomyrmex castor sp. n.

♀. Orange yellow, shining, furnished with sparse outstanding yellow hairs, eyes and teeth of mandibles black.

Head without mandibles transverse, massive, broader than thorax, posterior angles rounded, posterior border slightly excised in middle, cheeks straight; *mandibles* powerful, triangular, rather widely and strongly longitudinally striate, with a few punctures in the interstices, armed with four strong blunt teeth, the posterior three being shorter and blunter; *clypeus* transverse, anterior border crenulate, rather flat posteriorly with a narrow raised central carina; *frontal area* ill defined with a narrow central carina and fine longitudinal striae on each side; *frontal furrow* narrow, shallow, extending half-way to median ocellus; *frontal carinae* diverging behind, embracing a rather broad flat space which is punctured with a few rather large shallow umbilicate punctures, a few faint not close longitudinal striae are present between eyes and antennal foveae; *antennal foveae* large, deep, round, and margined with a number of narrow, low, circular ridges; *ocelli* small, not prominent, situated on posterior part of top of head; *eyes* large, not very convex, slightly longer than broad, furnished with numerous facets; *antennae* 11-jointed, stout; *scape* curved, considerably widened to apex, not reaching as far as posterior border of head, *funiculus* with stout joints increasing in breadth to apex, first joint about as long as broad, the rest getting gradually longer than broad, last joint bluntly pointed, slightly longer than the two preceding taken together. *Thorax* short, convex, narrowed in front and behind, broadest at insertion of wings; *pronotum* transverse, very narrow anteriorly, embracing mesonotum at sides, sides punctured with wide apart shallow umbilicate punctures; *mesonotum* very convex on disc, anterior border narrowly margined, punctured with wide-apart rather large shallow punctures, suture between mesonotum and praescutellum narrow but deep; *praescutellum* very narrow in centre, rather wide at sides, with a few shallow round punctures; *scutellum* transverse, convex, punctured with a few scattered, large, shallow, umbilicate punctures; *metanotum* transverse, very narrow, slightly convex; *epinotum* armed with two short pointed teeth, *dorsal surface* convex, transverse, with three shallow punctures on disc situated one above the other, the lowest being the broadest, a transverse furrow is present before excised ridge separating the declivity, *declivity* very smooth and shining, considerably hollowed out, with raised side margins. *Petiole* long with long peduncle, sides of peduncle almost straight to just before base where a short projection is present on each side, node high, broader than peduncle, convex and rounded above, sides almost straight, apical border truncate; *post petiole* convex and rounded above, broader than node of petiole, broadest just before apex, with a very small, short tooth beneath. *Gaster* convex, round oval, narrowed behind, very smooth and shining. *Legs* stout, moderate, *claws* rather long and narrow. *Wings* as in the ♂, but more ample. *Long.* 8 mm.

Described from two winged females taken by Miss L. E. Cheesman, Papua, Kokoda, 1200 ft., one in April, the other in October, 1933.

Type in the British Museum (N.H.).

This is probably the largest species in the genus. It comes nearest to *P. parampunctatus* Emery from New Guinea, which has been taken by Mr. G. E.

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