

antennal fossa. Frontal carinae divergent posteriorly, almost twice as far apart as long. Frontal area indistinct or absent. Mandibles crossing each other when closed, forming a very large open space between themselves and the anterior border of the clypeus; each mandible with a long masticatory border, which is composed of two apical teeth, two smaller teeth at the junction of the masticatory and superior border, and five very small teeth between these. Thorax, from above, very much broader anteriorly than posteriorly, compressed, without promesonotal suture; mesoepinotal impression not strongly indicated. Pronotal humeri distinct. Base of epinotum with a pair of extremely small spines, which are approximately one-third as long as their interbasal distance. Epinotal spines also unusually small, not twice as long as the basal spines, the apex of each spine acute, directed upward, outward, and backward. Legs more slender than those of *americana*, with incrassated femora and tibiae, tibia of each middle and hind leg without a spur. Petiole, from above, non-pedunculate, subrectangular, with anteriorly sloping declivity; highest near the middle, constricted posteriorly. Postpetiole from above about one and one-third times as broad as long, the anterior half more convex than the posterior half. Gaster larger than head, oval, with narrow, feebly emarginate, almost truncate base; first segment occupying most of gaster.

Mandibles, clypeal lobe, frontal area, lower side of head, propleura, pronotum, mesonotum, legs, epinotal declivity and gaster largely smooth and shining; rest of body subopaque.

Dorsal surface of head minutely rugulose-punctate. Mesopleurae, epinotum, sides of petiole and postpetiole rugulose-reticulate.

Hairs grayish, simple, suberect, fairly abundant over body; more reclinate on appendages. A few long, erect, scattered hairs on the antennal scapes.

Body and appendages reddish brown; gaster blackish with lighter apex.

*Type locality*.—Santa Barbara, California, Wilda S. Ross, from beneath a stone in oak woods.

Described from a single worker specimen, the holotype, bearing U.S.N.M. No. 57,961 in the collection of the United States National Museum.

This species can be distinguished by the tridentate clypeal lobe, broad and flat base of the antennal scape, feeble sculpturing, two pairs of extremely small epinotal spines, and the color. In the shape of the clypeal lobe and antennal scape *californica* seems to have a closer affinity with the common Palearctic *graminicola* (Latr.) than with any of the other forms occurring in the United States. *M. graminicola* differs from *californica* mainly in the larger teeth of the clypeal lobe, the lobed and sharper edged base of the antennal scape, the longer epinotal spines, and the coarser sculpturing and color.