

soil, under stones and in leaf litter. It is noteworthy that the localities where it was collected by the NHMB expeditions were generally not those where *niger* was found, suggesting that the two species occupy similar territory but are mutually exclusive.

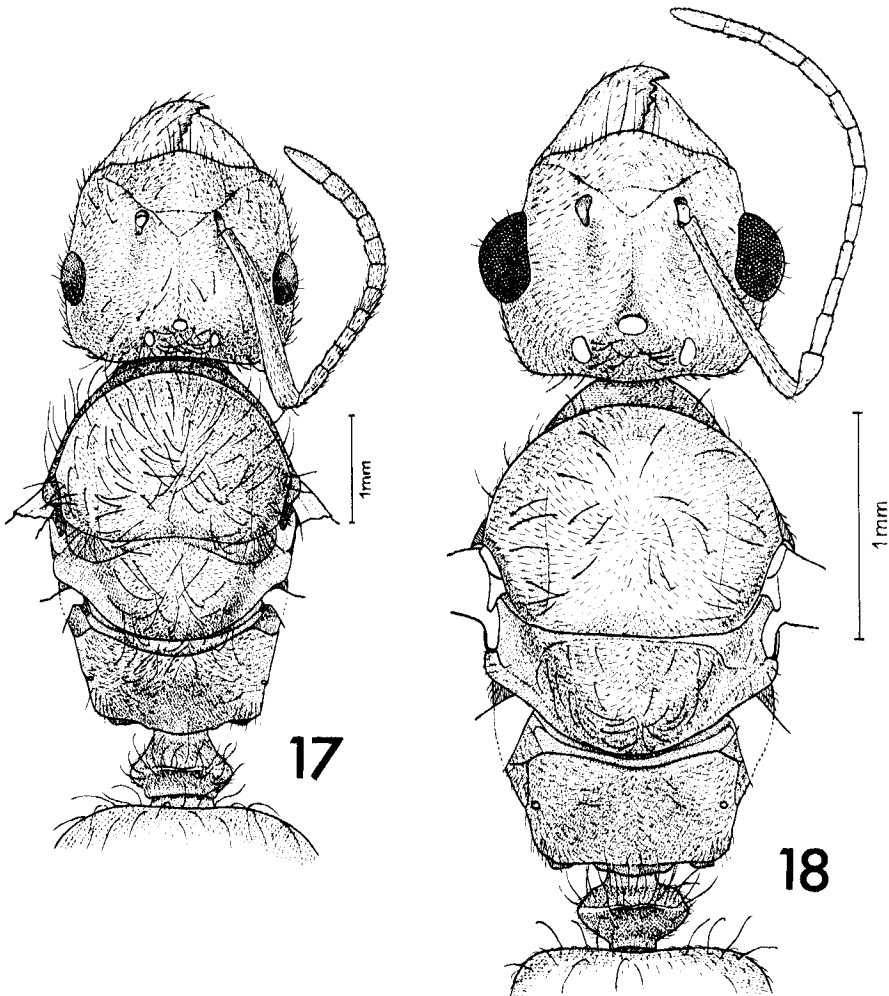
A series of three workers taken by H. Franz in West Nepal differs from the Bhutan and Pakistan material in having relatively larger eyes, ommatidia 52, wider petiole $100 \times PW$: HW 27–34 and considerably less pubescence on body and appendages. The material is insufficient to judge whether the Nepalese specimens are specifically distinct: in some ways they overlap with Wilson's description of

alienoflavus from Forel's original specimens collected in North India (Wilson, 1955).

***Lasius talpa* Wilson, 1955 (Figs. 6 and 13)**

Diagnosis. A small yellow species similar in all castes to *L. flavus* (F.) but distinguished by the presence of suberect hairs on the scapes, tibiae and genal margins. Previously recorded only from China, Japan and Korea.

Description. Worker. Clear yellow; body and appendages with dense adpressed pubescence. Body hairs numerous on gaster, sparse but longer on alitrunk. Projecting occipital



FIGS. 17–18. Head and alitrunk, *Lasius crinitus*, dorsal view: 17, female; 18, male.