

♂ *Media*. L. 6.5 mm.

Dark reddish brown, gaster black, the rest as in ♂ major. Pilosity as in ♂ major. The scapes just reach the occipital border. Sculpture somewhat finer than in ♂ major, otherwise similar. N.W. Persia. (Evans, No. 50).

This species is characterised by the broad and flat 1st joint of the scape, the only other species, as far as I know, that has a similarly shaped joint being *oertzeni*, For., var. *amphigea*, For., but, apart from the colour, is readily distinguished from *amphigea* by the much shorter antennæ and the sculpture.

Messor platyceras, Crawley, var. **rubella** var. nov.

♂ Major. L. 8.8mm.

Differs from the preceding as follows:—Colour: reddish-brown; mandibles, cheeks and legs paler. Eyes in middle of sides of head; first joint of funiculus similarly formed, but 2nd rather shorter in proportion; pro-mesonotum less highly arched; pronotum smooth and shining in centre. The whole thorax and epinotum less coarsely sculptured; postpetiole irregularly transversely rugose and very matt; gaster entirely smooth and shining. Pilosity similar, but somewhat shorter on the pronotum.

♂ Minor. L. 5.0mm.

Entirely castaneous; gaster somewhat darker. Entire sculpture finer than in ♂ major.

♂. L. 7.6mm.

Black; legs dark brown, joints and tarsi lighter. First joint of funiculus not flattened, equal in length to the 2nd, and slightly thicker (shorter than 2nd in *arenarius*, *barbarus*, *structor*, etc.), and both 1st and 2nd longer than the following joints. Mandibles 7-8 dentate, striate; clypeus irregularly rugose, head irregularly longitudinally rugose. Scutum shining in front, feebly longitudinally rugose in centre and at sides. Scutellum irregularly rugose, shining in centre; epinotum matt, feebly transversely rugose; nodes rugose; gaster shining.

Body covered with a long golden pilosity, most abundant on mesonotum and apex of gaster.

N.W. Persia, at 4,000 feet. 1919 (Buxton).

Messor barbarus race *semirufus*, And. ♂. N.W. Persia, 1919 (Buxton); Baghdad, 1918 (Evans).

Messor barbarus race *semirufus*, E. André, var. **obscurior** var. nov.

♂ Major. L. 7.5-8.0 mm.

Differs from *semirufus* as follows:—Colour dark-brown, in some specimens almost black, the colour being uniform except for the mandibles, tibiae, tarsi and scapes, which are a dull dark reddish-brown. In other examples the promesonotum and underside of head are a dull dark red, considerably darker than in the darkest examples of the type species.

Sculpture of head, especially on occiput, somewhat coarser than in the type, and on the pronotum, instead of being feebly and irregularly striate transversely, is evenly and regularly striate transversely on neck, and on the rest, coarsely irregularly striate transversely, and the striae in the centre often run longitudinally. Sculpture of rest of thorax and nodes similar to, but coarser than in *semirufus*. Pilosity similar but darker.

♂ Minor. L. 3.5 mm.

Has the same corresponding differences as the ♂ major. Amara, 1918 (Buxton); Baghdad 1918 (Evans).

M. barbarus race *semirufus*, And., var. *ebenina*, For., N.E. of Baghdad, 1918. A single ♂ on a card with *M. barbarus* race *semirufus* var. *obscurior*.

As far as can be judged from a single ♂ minor, this specimen belongs to Forel's var. *ebenina*.