

red including largest and smallest). As holotype but with considerable size variation and distinct variation in colour, ranging from dark red-brown to black. Some of the workers which are red-brown have areas which are black. Colour is not correlated to size of individual workers but may be correlated with their age.

Paratype females : Alate, the alitrunk with fully developed wings and flight sclerites. Ocelli present, the antennal scapes when laid back reaching the level of the anterior ocellus or just surpassing it. Eyes larger than in worker, maximum diameter 0.26-0.30. Colour black but the dorsal alitrunk showing patches of deep red-brown in some individuals. Slightly larger than workers but otherwise similar ; range TL 8.5-8.9, HL 1.62-1.72, HW 1.46-1.52, CI 87-89, ML 1.10-1.14, MI 72-76, SL 0.92-0.98, PH 0.84-0.88, PL 0.82-0.86, LPI 102-108, DPW 0.70-0.76, DPI 84-88 (4 measured).

Paratype males : A formal description of the male is not presented at present as males of only three other species in this genus are known (*mandibularis* Smith, *subterranea* Arnold, and *conjugata* Santschi), all of them being of southern and eastern African distribution. However, attention is drawn to their existence in the type-series of *lygaria* for the benefit of future students who may wish to study the males of this genus when more species have been collected.

Suffice to say for the moment that they fit the generic diagnosis (Bolton 1974) but have the reduced palp formula of 4,4.

Holotype worker Ivory Coast : Lamto, 4.vi.1974 forêt galerie du Bandama. (W. H. Gotwald and J. M. Leroux) in British Museum (Natural History)

Paratypes : 103 workers, 4 alate females and 15 males, with same data as holotype in British Museum (Natural History) ; Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass. ; Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris ; Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel ; Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva ; and Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra .

This small species is closely related to *subterranea* Arnold and will run out to that species in the key given by Bolton (1974). The two may be distinguished by the characters tabulated below :

*subterranea*

Pits on head and second gastral tergite without projecting pubescent hairs.

Track of metanotal groove not indicated on dorsal alitrunk.

Colour light red-brown to orange-brown.

Larger species, HW 1.40-1.96, ML 1.28-1.76, SL 0.96-1.24.

Ocular diameter at maximum 0.14-0.20.

Mandibles relatively slightly longer, MI 75-80.

*lygaria*

Pits on head and second gastral tergite with short but distinct appressed pubescent hairs projecting from their centres.

Track of metanotal groove indicated by a sculptured line across dorsal alitrunk.

Colour dark red-brown to black.

Smaller species, HW 1.14-1.38, ML 0.88-1.12, SL 0.70-0.94.

Ocular diameter at maximum 0.06-0.12.

Mandibles relatively slightly shorter, MI 69-74.