

to that part of his type material having a light-colored "forebody." It is quite possible that this form is the senior synonym of *brevinoda* and *gigas*, coming as it does from localities in central Queensland. It might also be the same as *M. dimidiata* Clark, since the first gastric segment is said by Mayr to be reddish in tone. Variation in *M. brevinoda* includes forms with persistent or deciduous anterior gastric pubescence and a range of forms of petiolar node; *M. ferruginea* will have to be considered as a name available for one species in this group. Besides *M. dimidiata*, Clark's inadequately distinguished species *M. decipians* and *M. hirsuta* may also be involved in this complex. The solution depends on a fuller characterization of the *M. ferruginea* types and a study of the variation in *M. brevinoda* and related forms. Curiously, Clark does not appear to have mentioned *M. ferruginea* in his revision, and it is not in the index.

MYRMECIA FLAMMICOLLIS New species

Diagnosis. A medium-sized, slender *Myrmecia* of the *apicalis* group, most closely resembling *M. petiolata* Emery, from which species it differs most conspicuously in color, the body being black, with the prothorax largely or entirely orange-red.

Holotype worker. Comparison is largely made with *M. nigrocincta* Fred. Smith, a closely related and common eastern Australian species.

General body color black; entire prothorax clear light orange-red. Mandibles, antennal scapes and legs deep reddish-brown; funiculi, extreme bases and apices of scapes, inner margins of mandibles, palpi and anterior tarsi shading into sordid yellow. Mandibular teeth infuscated.

Dimensions (in millimeters). Total length fully outstretched, not including mandibles, 13.0 ± 0.1 ; length of head, including clypeus, 2.37; width of head without eyes 2.34, with eyes 2.66; straightline exposed length of left mandible while in closed position 2.41; full length of scape 2.85; full exposed length of alitrunk in lateral view 4.64; of petiole 1.46, of postpetiole 1.17, and of gaster 3.4.

Sculpture as in *M. nigrocincta*, but slightly stronger and more opaque, especially on the cephalic dorsum. Pronotal sculpture as in *nigrocincta*, very finely reticulo-striate in front, with superimposed costulation or rugulation following the striation, largely transversely arched. Mesonotum similar, except that here the superimposed transverse costulation becomes much feebler posteriorly on the disc.