

in sculptural detail, especially on the pronotum. One specimen has the costulation running in an asymmetrical oblique pattern across the posterior $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pronotum; in others, the transverse costulation of the mesonotum is denser and more distinct.

This species is apparently most closely related to *M. petiolata*, a blackish-brown species with yellow mandibles, funiculi and tarsi found in the Cairns-Bellenden Ker region of North Queensland, but differs from *petiolata* in being even more slender and in having the pronotum colored in bright contrast to the remainder of the body. The differences from *M. nigrocincta* have already been covered; the latter species has both the pronotum and the propodeum ferruginous yellow, and the postpetiole is decidedly broader and more rounded seen from above. In Clark's key to the "nigrocincta group," given in his 1952 work (p. 110), *M. flammicollis* disagrees with both alternatives in the first couplet on account of its color. Like *M. nigrocincta*, the new species may be able to make short leaps when threatened; the color pattern marks it as a diurnal forager like the common species.

Since the presence far up on Cape York Peninsula of at least three species of *Myrmecia* (*auriventris*, *njöbergi* and *flammicollis*) has now been demonstrated, and since the occurrence of *M. apicalis* Emery on New Caledonia is well established (despite Clark's puzzling statement of 1952, p. 112, concerning Emery's earlier footnote) it seems not at all unlikely that one or more species of *Myrmecia* may yet be found in southern New Guinea. There are, however, no safe records of *Myrmecia* coming from the Darwin area, despite search by several interested entomologists, and my questioning of aboriginals in this region with alcoholic specimens at hand drew no signs of recognition of *Myrmecia*.

MYRMECIA DESERTORUM Wheeler

Myrmecia vindex var. *desertorum* Wheeler, 1915, Trans. R. Soc. S. Australia **39**: 805, worker.

Myrmecia lutea Crawley, 1922, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (9) **9**: 429, worker. NEW SYNONYMY.

Myrmecia princeps Clark, 1952, Formic. Australia, Melbourne, **1**: 46-47, fig. 24, worker. NEW SYNONYMY.

Myrmecia fuscipes Clark, 1952, *Ibid.*, pp. 62-63, fig. 39, worker. NEW SYNONYMY.

This species has a blackish head and gaster; the alitrunk, nodes,