

- Posterior face of petiole convex in both directions; compound eye distinctly longer than maximum W of a mandible (without teeth); sides of head, especially the part posterior to extraocular furrow, finely, densely and distinctly reticulate-punctulate and dull (known only from types from Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, possibly in mangroves) *biolleyi*
- 11. Node of petiole with a pair of prominent posterolateral tumosities at about mid-height; apex as seen from side abruptly narrowed to an axially erect, acute tooth (fig. 22); all surfaces of node smooth or nearly so above basal alutaceous part (Plate I, B; Amazon Basin, Guyanas, SE Brasil; forest) *biumbonatus* [8]
- Node of petiole without paired posterolateral tumosities; or, if moderate swellings are present, the node is distinctly sculptured with horizontal reticulostriation or costation, or apical spine or tooth inclined caudad from nodal axis (figs. 20-21, 23-27) 12
- 12. Antennal scape $L > 2.15$ mm, or if less than that (in minim workers from incipient nests), then the petiolar node is dome-shaped as seen from the side, with distinctly convex outline front and rear up to root of apical spine (fig. 24) 13
- Antennal scape $L < 2.15$ mm; petiolar node not dome-shaped as seen from the side (figs. 25-27; widespread in American tropics N to U.S.: Georgia; Cuba and Bermuda) *brunneus* [11]
- 13. Anterior face of petiolar node as seen from the side rising steeply from anterior margin, then passing through an obtuse angle into a long section concave in outline to the root of the apical spine (fig. 21); labial palpi 4-merous (E central Peruvian Andes) *bradleyi* [9]
- Anterior face of petiolar node otherwise formed (figs. 14, 24, Pl. I, E), either convex, concave or straight from base upward for 1/2 to 2/3 the distance to the root of the apical tooth or spine; labial palpi 3-merous 14
- 14. Petiolar node as seen from the side dome-shaped, with at least the anterior outline convex from near base to root of apical tooth (fig. 24, Plate I, E; tropical S and C America, Galapagos, W. Indies except Cuba and Bahamas) *bauri* [7,17]
- Petiolar node as seen from side gradually tapered dorsad, with basal half to 2/3 of anterior outline concave or straight (fig. 14); grades into form with gaster longitudinally striate above; see couplet 16 (Panama to NE Mexico) *laticeps* (part) [19]
- 15. Striation of gastric dorsum curved-transverse; large, slender species (see metric table; S Mexico to N Argentina; Trinidad; forest) *chelifer*
- Striation of gastric dorsum longitudinal 16
- 16. Mesonotum strongly convex, but broadly sulcate and longitudinally striate on at least the anterior half near midline; appressed pubescence of gastric dorsum nearly obsolete, its individual hairs minute, separated from one another by an average distance of their own length or more (Plate I, A; fig. 23; Amazon Basin, Guyanas, forest) *caelatus* [12]
- Mesonotum gently but evenly convex, transversely striate; reclinate pubescence of gastric dorsum abundant and conspicuous, its individual hairs 2 or more times longer than the average space between them; grades into form with smooth gastric dorsum; see couplet 14 (Panama to NE Mexico) *laticeps* (part) [19]
- 17. Ocular prominences each produced anterolaterally into a stout, acute, oblique, toothlike process (W Ecuador) *cornutus* [14]