

- long, gradually tapered from body of node (fig. 8; large, slender forms, Melanesia, possibly W to Celebes) *saevissimus* group [18] 4
- Anterior part of petiolar node without a well-defined low, false peduncle, though a brief true peduncle is sometimes present between anterior collar and node; opening of petiolar spiracle close to anterior base of node, and usually almost directly above apex of subpetiolar process; spine of petiolar apex varying in length, but often shorter and less evenly tapered from body of node (figs. 9, 17-19, 1) ... 8
4. Head and gaster dark brown or black; trunk, petiole and legs mostly contrasting yellowish-brown or reddish (N. Guinea to Solomons) *rufithorax* 5
- Head and trunk about the same color; gaster same color or darker 5
5. Head, trunk and legs yellowish-brown to deep reddish-brown; gaster same or darker 6
- Head, trunk, petiole and gaster uniformly dark brown to black (N. Guinea) 7
6. Dorsum of head behind extraocular furrows smooth (Moluccas, and possibly Celebes; N. Guinea to Solomons) *saevissimus* 6
- Posterior dorsum of head almost completely striate and opaque (N. Guinea) *montanus* 7
7. Pronotal disc smooth and shining *imperator* 7
- Pronotal disc finely striate *opaculus* 7
8. Dorsum of first gastric tergum completely striate 9
- Dorsum of first gastric tergum smooth, finely punctate, or alutaceous; partly striate on the posterior half only in some tropical Australian samples 10
9. Striation of first gastric tergum completely gently arched transverse (N. Guinea, may be conspecific with *O. cephalotes*) *aciculatus* [2] 10
- First gastric tergum with some longitudinal striation, if only in a small posteromedian sector (N. Guinea and nearby islands, N and coastal Queensland; grades into, and probably conspecific with, *O. ruficeps*, couplet 11) *cephalotes* [2] 11
10. Posterior vertex bearing small, discrete tumosities on either side of the median dorsal furrow about 1/3 the distance between it and the posterior corners of the head; color uniformly yellowish-orange to orange-brown (N. Borneo to Solomons; marine littoral, associated with reef coral) *malignus* [22] 11
- Vertex lacking such tumosities 11
11. First gastric tergum in part densely and finely coriaceous, alutaceous or longitudinally striate, at least in a strip along the posterior border (Australia, widespread in tropical and in arid inland areas) *ruficeps* [2] 12
- First gastric tergum uniformly smooth and shining, though sometimes with minute, discrete punctures and pubescence distributed over most or all of its dorsal surface 12
12. Subapical tooth of mandible short and broad, $< 2 \frac{1}{2} X$ as long as wide at midlength, and usually truncate or broadly rounded at apex; in specimens with $HL < 3.20$, antennal scapes short and vertex broad ($SI < 150$) 13
- Subapical tooth of mandible longer, usually $2 \frac{1}{2}$ or more times as long as wide at midlength, with acute or narrowly rounded apex (apex truncate in most *rixosus*); or else vertex narrower, scapes longer, SI usually over 150 in all sizes of workers 15