

convexity. The convex upper face is obscurely sulcate on the midline. Similarly shaped nodes are seen in occasional specimens of *O. papuanus*, but in *papuanus* and *infandus*, the concavity of the upper anterior face of the node is usually much more profound. In *O. floresensis*, the spine is more abruptly narrowed at its base than in related forms, except *sumbensis*; in *sumbensis*, the node is thicker anteroposteriorly, and the spine is shorter than in *floresensis*. In view of the great variability of nodal shape in the *infandus* group, the value of these characteres is debatable.

The striation of the head in *O. floresensis* is moderately coarse (about 5 striae in a square of 0.1 mm in the middle of the left side dorsal surface of the vertex) and extends back to a narrow smooth strip just before the nuchal carina, and down the sides of the head to a level below the eyes; also the cheeks are striate between eye and mandibular insertion. Some specimens, including the holotype, show a tendency to have the striation effaced in a narrow strip along each side of the median furrow on the upper vertex, and the surface here may be nearly or quite smooth, with a few scattered punctures.

Pronotal striation fine, transverse, often forming a flattened transverse whorl on the front part of the disc. Mesonotum low, its anterior edge not so sharply projecting above pronotal posterior margin as in *O. sumbensis*, and the mesonotal surface more convex from front to rear. Metanotum usually not markedly impressed, often convex, though separated from the propodeum by a distinct suture. Propodeal dorsum distinctly but very shallowly concave near midlength. Mesonotum and metanotum finely, propodeum more coarsely, transversely striate. Coxae, node and gaster smooth and shining. Legs shining, but minutely and densely punctulate and finely pubescent. Mandibles minutely roughened and punctate above, subopaque. Antennal scapes minutely and densely punctulate, pubescent, only weakly shining. Mesopleura finely vertically striate anteriorly and near upper margin; smooth with blue opalescent reflections and scattered punctures over posteromedian part. Pubescence on head, mandibles and gaster appressed, very sparse and fine, visible only in certain lights; better developed (but still not conspicuous) and decumbent on underside of head, on trunk and front and sides of petiolar node. Erect hairs on body very sparse: the usual middorsal cranial pair; 2-3 pairs of short hairs on the underside of the head near the mouth, plus the usual coarse sense hairs on the mandibles; usually 1-6 long, curved erect hairs on pronotal disc; zero to a few fine hairs on anterior coxal surfaces; zero to 3-4 fine erect hairs on posterior of first gastric tergum, and scattered, long fine hairs on underside and apical segments of gaster and on undersides of coxae, bases of femora, etc.

The first gastric tergum is strongly convex in both directions, not at all flattened, and the second tergum has the usual shallow transverse impression. Labial palpi 4-merous, but rather short and stout. Antennal scapes surpassing posterior border of head by more than the length of the pedicel (funicular segment I); proportions of funicular segments as described for *O. sumbensis*.

Holotype (MCZ) and 12 paratypes (MCZ, BMNH-London, and elsewhere) from Nangagete, about 60 km east of Maumere on the north coast of Flores Island, Indonesia, July 1972 (W. L. Brown), and 3 workers from Wodeng, about 31 km east of Maumere, also near the north coast of Flores, on another day in July 1972 (Brown). Both localities are in the lowlands along the main road along the north shore of Flores. At Nangagete, the ants were taken foraging near midday in scrubby second growth forest, and nesting under a log in the