

**A TAXONOMIC STUDY ON THE ANT GENUS *Pheidologeton*  
MAYR IN GUANGXI  
(Hymenoptera: Formicidae)**

Zhou Shanyi

Zheng Zhemin

(Department of Biology, Guangxi Normal  
University, Guilin, Guangxi 541004)

(Institute of Zoology, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an,  
Shaanxi 710062)

**Abstract**

Three new species of the ant genus *Pheidologeton* Mayr in Guangxi, China, *P. melasolenus* sp. n. *P. latinodus* sp. n. and *P. trechideros* sp. n., are described. A key based on large major worker caste is given to the known species of Guangxi. The holotypes are deposited in the Institute of Zoology, Shaanxi Normal University, the paratypes and other specimens are deposited in the Department of Biology, Guangxi Normal University. The measurements and indices used in the paper are as defined by Holldobler and Wilson (1990). All measurements are expressed in millimeters, and indices are expressed in percentage.

**1 *Pheidologeton melasolenus* sp. nov. (Figs. 1-3)**

Holotypes large major worker: TL 5.8; HL 1.87, HW 1.80, CI 96; SL 0.85, SI 47; PW 0.75, AL 1.52; ED 0.10.

This new species is similar to *P. vespillo* Wheeler, but differs from the latter in: 1) head with a black line in occipital groove, the latter without black line in its occipital groove; 2) postpetiole transversely elliptical, 1.5 times as broad as long, the latter with its postpetiole as long as broad; 3) head and body with numerous erect or suberect hairs, especially on head and on pronotum, the latter with sparse hairs on those portions.

Holotypes large major worker, Jinxiu County, Guangxi Province, 24-IX-1995, collected by Zhou Shanyi. Paratypes: 1 large major worker, 4 small major workers and 8 minor workers, data as holotype; 2 large major workers, 4 small major workers and 3 minor workers, Xin'an County, Guangxi Province, 25-VI-1994; 6 small major workers and 3 minor workers, Daming Mountain, Guangxi Province, 30-X-1995. Specimens are collected by Zhou Shanyi.

**2 *Pheidologeton latinodus* sp. nov. (Figs. 4-6)**

Holotypes large major worker: TL 6.8; HL 2.12, HW 1.93, CI 91; SL 0.88, SI 46; PW 0.92, AL 1.74; ED 0.18.

This new species resembles *P. maccus* Wheeler, but differs from the latter in: 1) propodeal spines slender and short, the latter with its spines stout; 2) upper surface of postpetiole smooth and shining, while the latter's upper surface of postpetiole with several longitudinal impressions; 3) anterior and lateral margin of mesonotum with fine but distinct rugae, the latter without rugae on mesonotum. In addition, the new species is orange red,