

- Gaster shining, or rugose (or punctate) only on the base of the first segment ..... 5
5. Gaster shining, feebly and sparsely punctate ..... 6
- Gaster reticulate on the base of the first segment ..... 7
6. Small species, TL less than 3.0 mm; occipital corners reticulate; Guangxi: Guilin City; Anhui, Shanghai, Hubei, Hunan, Zhejiang, Sichuan; Japan, Korea ..... *P. pieli* Santschi
- Large species, TL more than 4.0 mm; occipital corners transversely rugose; Guangxi: Huaping Natural Conservation; Hunan; South-east Asia ..... *P. sulcaticeps* Roger
7. Head peculiarly shaped, vertex with impression, and sides with oblique impressions; rugae vanishing on the impression; sides without rugae ..... *P. aphrasta* sp. nov.
- Head without impression at sides; rugose throughout; Guangxi: Nanning City, Yulin City; Hongkong ..... *P. hongkongensis* Wheeler new status
8. Postpetiole much broader and higher than petiole; all parts of Guangxi; all parts of China; all countries of Asia ..... *P. noda* Smith
- Postpetiole lower than, or at most slightly higher than petiole ..... 9
9. Petiolar node squamiform, anterior face almost parallel to posterior face, the petiole laterally dentate; Guangxi: Mao'ershan Natural Conservation, Shiwandashan Natural Conservation; Burma ..... *P. feae* Emery new record to China
- Petiolar node oblique anteriorly and posteriorly, the petiole not dentate laterally ..... 10
10. Propodeal spines slender and acute, not thick at base; eyes small, less than 0.18 mm in greatest diameter; all parts of Guangxi; Yunnan, Sichuan, Fujian, Hainan; Singapore, Japan ..... *P. fervens* Smith
- Propodeal spines stout, thick at base; eyes larger, more than 0.21 mm in greatest diameter ..... 11
11. Clypeus not carinate; head longitudinally rugose throughout; all parts of Guangxi; Jiangxi, Sichuan, Fujian, Guangdong; India, Burma, Sri Lanka ..... *P. indica* Mayr
- Clypeus carinate; head with area between eyes and frontal carinae reticulate ..... *P. longiscapa* sp. nov.
12. Transverse ridge of the mesonotum indistinct; pronotum shining; mesopleurae and propodeum densely punctate; Guangxi: Tianlin County, Fusui County, Du'an County; Fujian, Guangdong, Taiwan; all tropical zones around the world ..... *P. megecephala* (Fabricius)
- Transverse ridge of the mesonotum distinct; pronotum transversely rugose; mesonotum and propodeum vaguely crease and punctate; pale yellow ..... *P. flaveria* sp. nov.

### 1 *Pheidole aphrasta* sp. nov. (Figs. 1-2)

Holotypes major worker and minor worker (the measurements and the indices of the major worker at first, followed by those of the minor worker. So are the following species): TL 5.0, 2.1; HL 1.41, 0.57; HW 1.25, 0.51; CI 88, 89; SL 0.59, 0.53; SI 47, 102; PW 0.62, 0.25; AL 0.94, 0.63; ED 0.15, 0.08.

Major worker. Head with transverse impression on vertex, lateral impressions oblique from anterior sides to vertex; clypeus with its anterior margin transverse, not emarginate; frontal carinae short, reaching anterior level of the eyes; no antennal scrobes; scapes of antennae falling short of the head by about 1.3 times of its own length. Pronotum convex, lateral tubercles distinct, rhombohedral in dorsal; transverse ridge of the mesonotum feebly convex; basal portion of the propodeum slightly shorter than declivity; propodeal spines broad at base, acute, direct upward, slightly diverging. Petiole triangular in profile, bluntly rounded at top, transverse in dorsal, with its upper border entire, not emarginate; postpetiole transversely broad, about twice as broad as petiole, angularly produced at the sides. Gaster broadly oval.

Mandibles shining; clypeus feebly punctate in the middle; head punctate throughout, anteriorly rugose, rugae vanishing on transverse impression; no rugae at the sides; occipital corners reticulate. Alitrunk, petiole and postpetiole coarsely punctate; pronotum feebly and irregularly rugose. Gaster densely reticulate at the base of the first segment; declivity