

anterior of the anterolateral prominences in the *I. discors* group and between 0.04 mm and 0.09 mm anterior in *I. mayri* and relatives.

### Methods and abbreviations

Size and shape characters were quantified and are reported as lengths or indices. Measurements were made with a stereo microscope using a dual-axis stage micrometer wired to digital readouts. All measurements were recorded in thousandths of millimetres, but are expressed here to the nearest hundredth. All head measurements (EL, EW, HL, HW; see below for abbreviations) were taken in full-face (dorsal) view without moving the head between measurements. Longitudinal mesosomal length measurements (PnL, ML, PpL) were taken in lateral view, parallel to a line ("measuring axis") drawn between the anterior-most point of the pronotal collar and the posterior-most point of the propodeal process dorsal of the petiolar insertion.

Figures showing the following measurements can be found in Shattuck (1993): EL, EW, HL, HW, ML, PnL, PpL and SL.

Abbreviations used are: *Characters*: CI, cephalic index; HW/HL; EL, maximum eye length measured in full face view; EW, maximum eye width measured in full face view; HL, maximum head length in full face view, measured from the anterior-most point of the clypeal margin to the midpoint of a line drawn across the posterior margin of the head; HTL, maximum length of hind tibia, excluding the proximal part of the articulation which is received into the distal end of the hind femur; HW, maximum head width in full face view, excluding eyes; ML, mesonotal length measured from the pronotal-mesonotal suture to the metanotal groove parallel to the

measuring axis (see also above); PnL, pronotal length measured from the anterior edge of the pronotal collar to the pronotal-mesonotal suture parallel to the measuring axis (see also above); PpL, propodeal length measured from the metanotal groove to the posterior-most point of the petiolar insertion parallel to the measuring axis (see also above); REL, relative eye length: EL/HW; SI, scape (first antennal segment) index: SL/HW; SL, length of the scape excluding the basal radicle. *Collectors*: BBL, B. B. Lowery; JC, J. Clark; JEF, J. E. Feehan; PJMG, P. J. M. Greenslade; RWT, R. W. Taylor; SOS, S. O. Shattuck; TG, T. Greaves. *Collections*: ANIC, Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra, A.C.T.; MCZC, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.; MHNG, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland; MVMA, Museum of Victoria, Abbotsford, Victoria; NHMB, Naturhistorisches Museum, Basél, Switzerland; OXUM, Oxford University Museum, Oxford, U.K.; SAMA, South Australian Museum, Adelaide; S.A.; WAMP, Western Australian Museum, Perth, W.A.

### Key to species of *Iridomyrmex discors* group (workers)

1. Head broad (CI usually greater than 0.95, occasionally lower) (Fig. 1); scapes short (SI less than or equal to 0.99) (Fig. 2); propodeal dorsum rounded in lateral profile (Figs 5-7) ..... *I. discors* Forel  
Head narrow (CI less than 0.94) (Fig. 1); scapes long (SI greater than or equal to 1.00) (Fig. 2); propodeal dorsum flatter in lateral profile (Fig. 9) ..... *I. obscurior* Forel

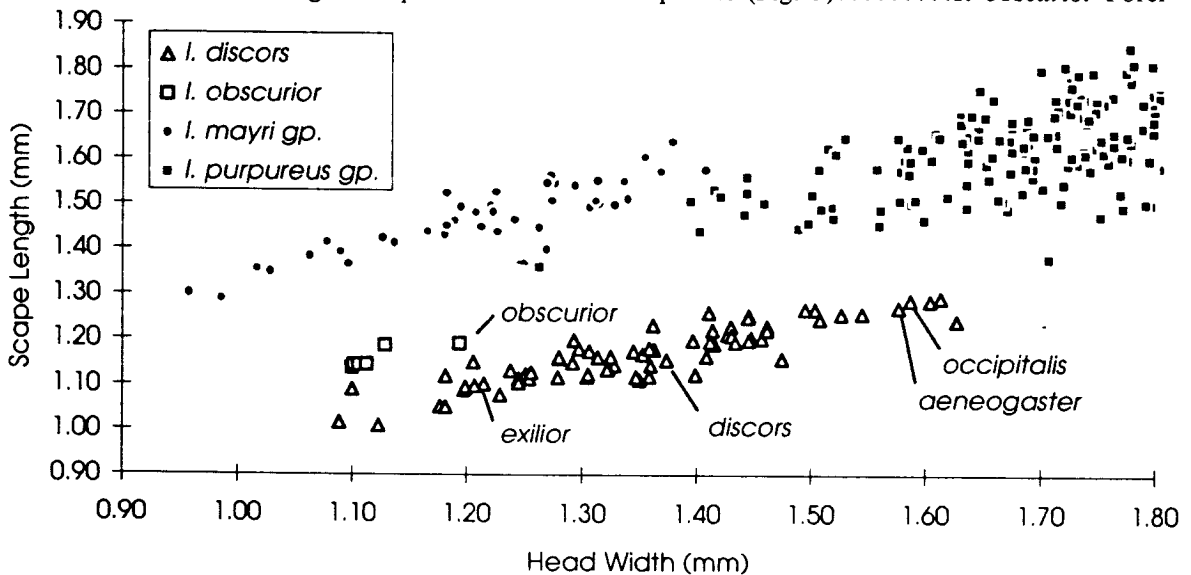


Fig. 2. Distribution of scape length and head width measurements (in millimetres) for *I. discors*, *I. obscurior*, *I. mayri* group and *I. purpureus* group.