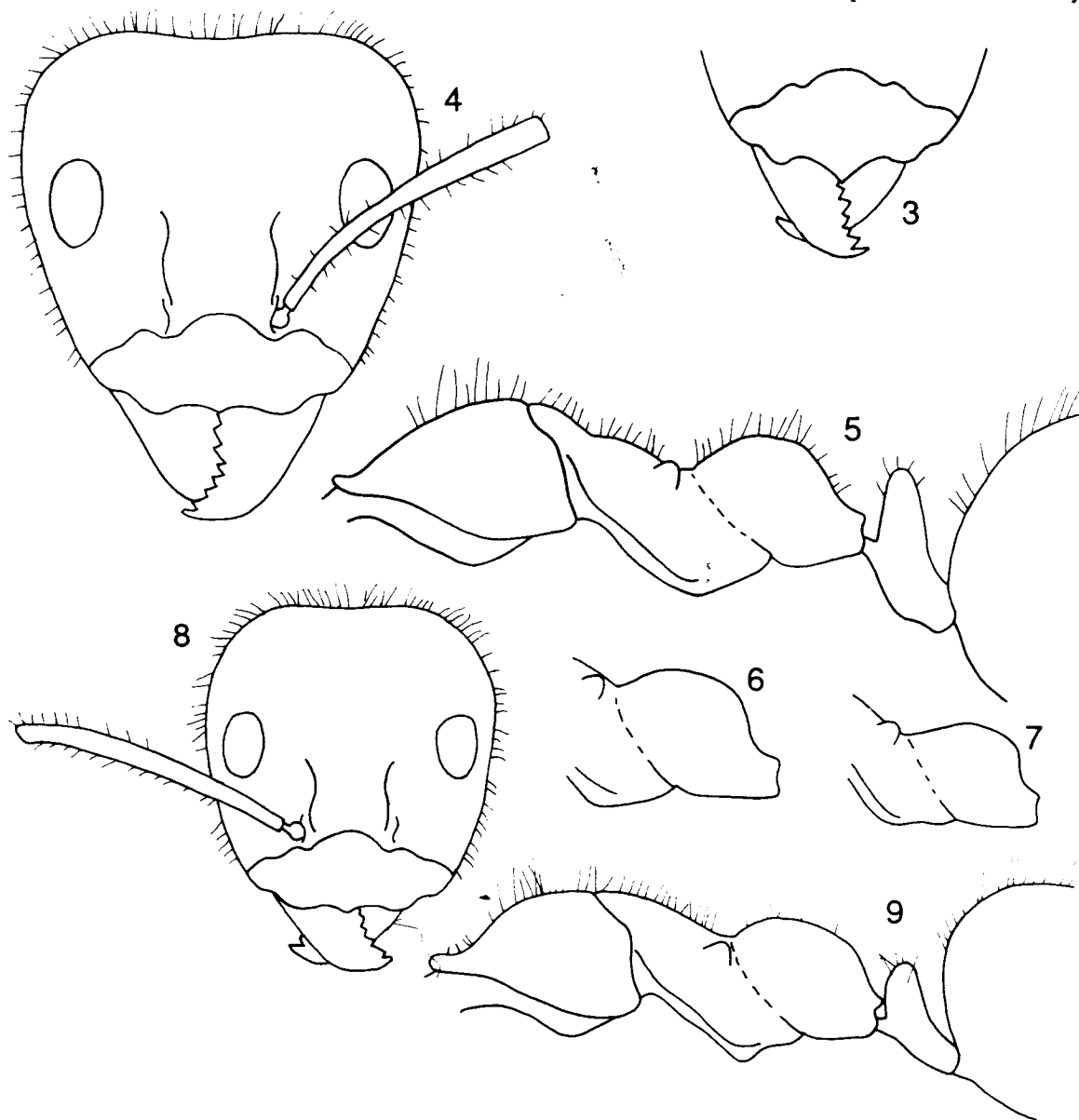


only slightly darker than the mesonotum to distinctly infuscated dark brown. Iridescence present or absent from gaster, when present green or purple. Head pilosity always present and setae numerous on occipital margin, varying from abundant to nearly absent laterally. Dorsal surfaces of mesosoma, petiole and gaster with numerous elongate erect or suberect setae; erect hairs present on all leg surfaces and antennal scapes. Shape of dorsal surface of propodeum variable in lateral profile but always rounded or arched.

**Measurements.** *Worker* ( $n = 52$ ): CI 0.92-1.07; EL 0.25-0.35; EW 0.15-0.23; HL 1.12-1.56; HTL 1.41-1.87; HW 1.09-1.63; ML 0.45-0.77; PnL 0.56-0.83; PpL 0.54-0.76; REL 0.20-0.26; SI 0.76-0.99; SL 1.01-1.29.

**Comments.** *Iridomyrmex discors* shows considerable variation in the development of pilosity, especially on the lateral margin of the head; profile of the dorsal propodeum (Figs 5-7); overall size; and colour, especially the infuscation of the legs. This variability has resulted in the establishment of three subspecies and one variety



**Figs 3-9.** *Iridomyrmex* species, workers: (3) anterior region of head of *I. mayri* group; (4) full face view of *I. discors* (Sturt National Park, N.S.W.); (5) lateral view of mesosoma and petiole of *I. discors* (Sturt National Park, N.S.W.); (6) lateral view of propodeum of *I. discors*, pilosity omitted (Sturt National Park, N.S.W.); (7) lateral view of propodeum of *I. discors*, pilosity omitted (Botany Bay breakwaters, Sydney, N.S.W.); (8) full face view of *I. obscurior* (syntype); (9) lateral view of mesosoma and petiole of *I. obscurior* (syntype).