

area carinate, carinae diverging posteriorly; central  $\frac{1}{3}$  of frontal arc (between antennal sockets) glassy-smooth; occipital area rugose; venter rugose to scabrous, becoming more scabrous towards gula and midline of venter. Interstices glassy-smooth with piligerous and non-piligerous punctures. Thoracic dorsum scabrous (almost carinate on pronotal humeri). Thoracic pleura scabrous (almost rugose toward anterior and posterior borders). Neck of pronotum rugulose. Metanotal impression scrobiculate. Mesopleuron with scrobiculate median area. Coxae with faint, transverse carinae; remainder of legs smooth with faint longitudinal carinae on femora. Propodeal dorsum with faint rugose basal face, two transverse carinae between spines, and faint transverse carinae on declivitous face. Alitrunk interstices glassy smooth with scattered piligerous and non-piligerous punctures. Petiolar node dorsum faintly rugose; remaining surfaces scabrous except venter of petiolar peduncle rugulose. Postpetiolar node dorsum rugose (almost scabrous); remaining surfaces scabrous (with a distinct longitudinal orientation). First gastral tergite base carinate; carinae diverging towards posterior (longest carinae located near midline of tergite length almost equal to  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of postpetiole). First gastral sternite base with numerous short carinae, length of carinae not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of postpetiole. Remainder of gaster glassy-smooth (even at high magnifications), with scattered piligerous punctures. Setae on head erect to suberect (with a few decumbent setae on sides). Setae on scape erect to suberect. Setae on alitrunk mostly erect to suberect. Setae on legs mostly appressed. Setae on petiole, postpetiole, and gaster mostly erect to suberect, except setae appressed on anterior surface of petiolar node. Entire body brown in color; propodeum, petiole, and postpetiole darkest with color turning lighter towards anterior and posterior. Gaster and appendages yellow brown. Setae yellow.

Neither gyne nor male are currently known in this species.

## COMPARISONS

*S. kurilense* is known only from its type locality and only from two workers. Therefore comparisons with other species are based on limited known variation. *S. kurilense* is most closely related to *S. ussuriense* based upon gross morphology (including surface sculpture). I believe it best to treat this as a separate species until additional specimens (including reproductives) are known (and we have a better understanding of variation within this species). Since only four species (*S. ussuriense*, *S. owstoni*, *S. nipponense*, and *S. kurilense*) occur in this part of Asia, the following comparisons were made.

*S. kurilense* is most likely to be confused with *S. ussuriense* in terms of overall sculpture and color. Both species have a punctate mesopleuron