



Figures 1–3. *Paratrechina laevigata* Mackay, NEW SPECIES. Figure 1. General habitus. Figure 2. Frontal view of head. Figure 3. Margins of setal socket.

Female and Male: Unknown.

Diagnosis.—This is a small pale ant, and is easily separated from all other New World species in the genus as it lacks dark, coarse hairs on the mesosoma.

Distribution.—Known only from type locality.

Discussion.—*Paratrechina laevigata* appears to be most closely related to *P. arenivaga* (Wheeler), as head shape and structure of the mesosoma and gaster of the two species are nearly identical. This new species is clearly a member of *Paratrechina*, and not a member of *Lasius*, based on numerous characters (Table 1). It would key to *Lasius* in Creighton (1950) and with difficulty to *Paratrechina* in Holldobler and Wilson (1990) and Bolton (1994). Although this species su-

Table 1. A comparison of *Paratrechina laevigata* with the genera *Lasius* and *Paratrechina*.

Character	<i>Lasius</i>	<i>Paratrechina</i>	<i>P. laevigata</i>
Distance of eye from base of mandible (diameters)	several	about 1	about 1 (Fig. 1)
Number of mandibular teeth	7+	5–6	6 (Fig. 2)
Placement of eye (section of head)	posterior	anterior	anterior (Fig. 2)
Anterior border of clypeus	convex	concave	concave (Fig. 2)
Coarse hairs on mesosoma	absent	present	absent
Long and coarse gastral hairs	absent	present	present (Fig. 1)
Margins of setal socket	poorly differentiated	raised, dark	raised, darkened (Fig. 3)
Decumbent pubescence	abundant	sparse	nearly absent