

(SANTSCHI, 1925, 1929). However, SANTSCHI (1936) himself doubted the identification of *M. aloba* in the absence of males and there is also doubt about the correct identification of some of the older records of this and other species, some of which at least should probably be referred to the new species proposed here.

True *M. aloba* is a common Iberian species. Recent capture of sexuals with associated workers have made a fuller description possible (TINAUT & ESPADALER, 1987). Abundant Iberian material compared with samples taken at Oukaimeden, Higher Atlas, Morocco, appear to differ at specific level. The new species, with the scape having no lobar extension at the bend is so reminiscent of that of *M. aloba* that it may be advisable to check all previous African material. Citations of *M. aloba* from Algeria (CAGNIANT, 1968, 1973) correspond to this new species.

Material and Methods

Measurements were made with a Nikon binocular microscope and scaled eyepiece, accurate to 0.025 mm (table 1).

Indices used are those of ARNOLDI (1934):

- Head Index: width of the head at the anterior margin of the eyes x 100 / length of the head;
- Frontal Index: width of the forehead x 100 / width of the head;
- Frontal laminae Index: width of the forehead x 100 / width of the frontal laminae.
- Buschinger's Index: distance from propodeal spiracle to the tip of the spines / distance from propodeal spiracle to the descent face of propodeum in profile.

Results

Myrmica cagnianti n. sp.

Worker (figs. 1, 2, 5, 6)

Lg 3.7-4.7 mm; general habitus of most European *Myrmica*. Colour of workers one

year or less: head, thorax, legs and pedicels reddish brown; gaster dark brown. Older workers: head, thorax and gaster dark brown; legs and pedicels reddish brown. Pilosity finer and longer than in *M. aloba* and other European *Myrmica* (15 species compared), specially on the gaster.

Scape sharply bent near the base, without any lobar extension; scape thinner than in *M. aloba*. External border of scape with preponderantly subdecumbent hairs. Head indices, see table 2. Frontal triangle smooth and shining in the first 2/3, with 1-4 short striae at the apex. Dorsal median surface of the head longitudinally striate, becoming reticulate laterally; species between frontal striae smooth and shining; spaces between lateral reticle, superficially sculptured.

Thorax longitudinally striate, the spaces between striae smooth and shining; propodeal spines long, fine and slightly curved downwards when viewed from side and diverging from above. Mesopropodeal furrow shallow. Tibial spurs from middle and hind legs very poorly developed, nearly absent; in a few examples from Algeria the spurs may be near normally developed. Petiole in profile with distinctly concave anterior face, similar to *M. speciooides* Bondroit; the node sloping backwards from the dorsal crest, without a distinct step; viewed from above its sides converge anteriorly. Postpetiole globose to sub-elliptical from above, distinctly wider than the petiole; postero-dorsal face of petiole finely reticulate rugose; post-petiole rugose with striae converging posteriorly. Gaster smooth and shining.

Female (fig. 3)

Lg 5.8-6.0 mm; colour similar to the worker but the head darker, specially the clypeus and front, and two dark parapsidal strips and a middle anterior zone of scutum, posterior border of scutum and a dark spot at the posterior zone of the anepisternum. Pilosity very fine, as in workers.

Scape, clypeus and head sculpture as in workers; head indices, see table 2. Thorax