

type and both were so labelled. Sri Lanka: (as Ceylon), 4 workers, 1 ♀ (BMNH); Anuradhapura, 14-17.ii.1972 (U. Maschwitz #WD542 ♀, 552 ♀); Yala Park, 4.iii.1977 (U. Maschwitz #WD560, 3 workers). S. India: Dohnavur, 350', Tinnevely Dt., 8.x.1938 (B.M.-C.M. Expdn. to S. India, ix-x.1938, 3 workers, 1 ♀, 2 ♂♂); Tenmalai, 500-800', Travancore, 11-17.x.1938 (B.M.- C.M. Expdn. to S. India, ix-x.1938, 3 workers).

Worker.— Dimensions (lectotype cited first, paralectotype second): TL c. 6.36, 6.61, 7.00-7.21; HL 1.65, 1.78, 1.81-1.93; HW 1.22, 1.26, 1.48-1.50; CI 74, 71, 78-82; SL 1.90, 2.06, 2.15-2.18; SI 156, 163, 145; PW 1.28, 1.33, 1.43-1.47; MTL 1.81, 1.96, 2.09-2.12 (12 measured).

Mandibles with 5 teeth. Clypeus in profile sinuate, slightly concave anteriorly, moderately convex posteriorly with weakly impressed basal margin; anterior margin arcuate with medially situated 'V' shaped minute notch. Frontal carinae prominent with moderately raised lobes; area between them gently excavated. Eyes relatively large, truncate posteriorly (blinkers). Ocelli lacking (relative position of median ocellus marked by a minute shallow depression). Pronotum in front with shallow transverse depression, humeri dentate, continuous posteriorly for short distance as ill defined lateral margins; pronotal dorsum convex, extending posteriorly as a shield which conceals the greater portion of the mesonotal dorsum. Metanotal groove deeply impressed, extending on each side past metathoracic spiracles. Propodeal dorsum convex; anterior margin deeply medially emarginated, projecting forward, partly bridging the furrow (the propodeal dorsum appears to be consistently asymmetrical and distinctly twisted to the left in all *scissa* specimens examined, including types - see fig. 3). Posteriorly the propodeal dorsum is separated from declivity by arched, laterally angulated carina; declivity abrupt. Petiole in side view biconvex, armed with a pair of short, acute spines situated on the dorsolateral angles and separated by the transversely convex, acute, medially emarginated dorsal edge of the segment. First gastral tergite with base shallowly truncate.

Mandibles closely shagreened, with piliferous pits. Clypeus, frontal areas of head and occiput finely shagreened with scattered shallow pits; sculptural intensity more distinct laterally, with sides of head rather densely punctate. Lateral branches of mesosoma shagreened, with sculptural intensity markedly decreasing dorsally; mesosomal dorsum very finely, closely shagreened, resulting in peculiar semiopaque effect, quite contrasting with more or less glossy appearance of the rest of the body. Gastral dorsum shagreened with numerous piliferous pits, reflective.

Mandibles with short, semierect hairs. Anterior clypeal margin with a single seta arising from median 'V'-shaped notch; 3 to 4 pairs of setae arise along the midline from clypeus to the occiput. Numerous adpressed and semierect short hairs arise from piliform pits scattered over whole of the body. Gaster on ventral aspect and apex with scattered long hairs.

Black throughout.

Female. — Dimensions: TL c. 8.44-8.72; HL 1.96-2.03; HW 1.42-1.50; CI 72-74; SL 2.12-2.28; SI 149-152; PW 1.81-1.93; MTL 2.17-2.34 (2 measured).

The female resembles the worker and, besides the obvious characters identifying full sexuality, differs in lack of the peculiar semiopaque effect of the mesosoma. The mesoscutum, mesoscutellum and propodeal dorsum are regularly shagreened with numerous piliferous pits, reflective.