

and projecting backwards and upwards (angle  $< 45^\circ$ ). Petiole with long thick anterior peduncle and in profile, relatively high, with relatively long node broadly rounded. Postpetiole subcubical with slightly arched antero-dorsal surface.

Head dorsum longitudinally rugulose and surfaces between rugae densely and coarsely punctured, and appearing submatte to dull; clypeus longitudinally rugose; frontal area and clypeus appearing shiny; mandibles with fine longitudinal rugulosity. Promesonotal dorsum irregularly rugoso-reticulate; propodeal dorsum with fine reduced longitudinal rugulose sculpture; pro- and mesopleura longitudinally rugoso-striated. Surfaces between rugae finely but distinctly punctured; sides of propodeum coarsely punctured and (in some specimens) lower parts longitudinally rugulose. Petiole and postpetiole densely but finely punctured, and appearing submatte. Body with relatively few long, thin, erect to suberect hairs; lateral margins of head, and appendages with short, decumbent pilosity. General colour dark brown to black, legs and antennae dark reddish-brown.

Females. Generally similar to workers in shape of head, sculpture, colouration and pilosity except: antennal scape relatively shorter; frontal carinae weakly curved but not curved outwards to merge with rugae which surround antennal sockets; alitrunk relatively long and wide; propodeal spines relatively shorter than those of workers. Scutum densely, longitudinally rugulose, central part of scutellum smooth and shiny, remainder with short, longitudinal rugae; sides of alitrunk regularly longitudinally rugulose, and surfaces not punctured and appearing shiny. Both petiole and postpetiole more densely punctured and appearing submatte; postpetiole also with longitudinally concentric striation.

Males. Head slightly longer than broad, with convex sides, slightly convex occipital margins and broadly rounded occipital corners. Anterior clypeal margins slightly prominent and pointed medially. Antennal scapes short (shorter than sum of length of funicular joints 1–4) and very feebly curved at their bases. Masticatory margin of mandibles distinct, with 5 small acute teeth and longer apical tooth. Alitrunk relatively long and wide; in profile scutum appearing slightly convex; propodeum with short blunt denticles; metapleural lobes rounded. Petiole with short, thick but distinct anterior peduncle; it distinctly longer than high; its anterior surface appearing slightly concave in profile, and its posterior one convex; node appearing relatively long with broadly rounded dorsum. Postpetiole appearing subglobular.

Entire head dorsum (including frontal area and clypeus) densely punctured and appearing dull; frons also with quite deep longitudinal grooves and striations. Scutellum and central part of distal half of scutum finely longitudinally rugulose; sides of alitrunk finely punctato-striated (sculpture may be reduced in some places). Petiolar node very finely punctured but postpetiole and gaster smooth and shiny. Occipital margins of head with relatively long suberect hairs; temples and cheeks with short subdecumbent pilosity; alitrunk, petiole, postpetiole and gaster with relatively sparse, more or less short, straight, suberect hairs; legs and scapes with short, subdecumbent hairs. General colour dark reddish-brown but head dark brown.

Notes. *M. wardi* is similar to *Myrmica cachmiriensis* Forel; its workers differ by their darker colour and distinctly shorter propodeal spines (ESLI = 0.19–0.33  $\nu$  0.51–0.68), and females differ by their darker colour and longer head (CI = 1.16–1.24  $\nu$  1.12–1.20). Males differ by their distinctly higher petiole (PII = 1.33–1.36  $\nu$  1.40–1.64) and by the reduced rugulosity and presence of punctures on the sides of the alitrunk (those of *M. cachmiriensis* are densely but not coarsely rugulose). A little is known about its ecology (P. Ward, *pers. comm.*). Ants were collected in Kashmir at altitudes of 2190–3450 m in the same regions, but at lower altitudes than *M. rhytida* (mean 2700 m  $\nu$  3600 m). *M. wardi* was distinctly more associated with open woodland than *M. rhytida*, particularly from meadows with sparse trees — willow, prunus, acer and fir species, also from among woody shrubs with *Rosa* sp. and stony grasslands and pastures having a low sward. The few nests that were found were built in the soil and