

middle; declivity truncate; conjunction between them bluntly angular. Petiolar node high, with short peduncle, anterior face and posterior face oblique, roundly convex at tip; postpetiole rounded, slightly broader than petiole in dorsal view. Gaster longitudinally oval, anterior border straight.

Mandibles with fine longitudinal striations; head, promesonotum, petiole, postpetiole and gaster smooth and shining; mesopleuron and metapleuron densely reticulate; propodeum with fine transverse striations.

Erect hairs and pubescence sparse. Antennal scapes and hind tibia without erect hair.

Color yellowish brown, antennae and legs lighter, apical 2/3 of gaster dark brown.

Paratypes 13 workers: TL 2.0~2.4, HL 0.55~0.67, HW 0.42~0.58, CI 76~86, SL 0.41~0.51, SI 87~97, PW 0.27~0.34, AL 0.60~0.72, ED 0.08~0.10.

Holotype worker, Beihai City, Guangxi, 20. V. 1996, Shanyi Zhou leg. Paratypes: 6 workers, data as holotype; 5 workers, Hepu County, Guangxi, 21. V. 1996, Shanyi Zhou leg.

This new species is allied to *M. destructor* (Jerdon), but can be distinguished from the latter by its anterior clypeal border truncate, mesopleuron and metapleuron densely reticulate, and postpetiole broader than petiole.

16. *Pheidole selathorax* sp. nov. (Figs. 230~232)

Holotype soldier: TL 4.2, HL 1.28, HW 1.10, CI 85, SL 0.63, SI 57, PW 0.50, AL 0.97, ED 0.15.

Head longer than broad, occipital border shallowly concave, median sulcus of head deep. Clypeus flat, anterior border with a shallow notch. Frontal area slightly impressed, not clearly bordered with posterior border of clypeus. Antennal scapes short, not reaching medlength of the sides of head, terminal segment of funicular 2 × as long as the 10th. Frontal carinae short, diverging backward at the level of eyes. Gular denticles distinct, with 1 median denticle and 2 lateral denticles. Pronotum less than 1/2 of the width of head, lateral tubercles prominent, subrhomboidal in dorsal view; mesonotum oblique backward, transverse ridge absent; propodeal spines stout, blunt at tip, upward and outward. Petiolar node triangular in profile view, upper margin slightly concave in the middle; dorsum of postpetiole rounded, as high as petiolar node, transversely broad, about 1.8 × as broad as petiolar node in dorsal view, lateral angles prominent. Gaster oval.

Mandibles and middle of clypeus smooth and shining; lateral clypeus with short, fine longitudinal striations; cephalic dorsum with sparse longitudinal striations, the striations diverging backward in the middle, feeble near occipital corners. Pronotum and mesonotum smooth and shining; mesopleuron and propodeum with sparse and irregular creases, among creases feebly punctate; basal face and declivity of propodeum with feeble transverse striations. Petiole, postpetiole and basal half of first gastral segment feebly reticulated, remaining gastral segments smooth and shining. Erect hairs yellow, soft, abundant, long erect hairs mixed up with short erect hairs. Antennal scapes and dorsum of hind tibia with moderately dense erect hairs. Pubescence absent.

Color brownish yellow. Head darker, slightly reddish, gaster contaminate blackish brown; antennae and legs yellow.

Paratypes 4 workers: TL 2.3~2.5, HL 0.54~0.56, HW 0.46~0.48, CI 84~85, SL 0.53~0.56, SI 110~119, PW 0.23~0.25, AL 0.65~0.68, ED 0.09~0.10. Head oval, longer than broad, occipital slightly concave in the middle. Antennal scapes slightly extending beyond occipital