

CLADAROGENYS LASIA species nov.

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Pilot Register of Zoology  
Card No. 34  
Issued 30 December 1976.

Insecta: Hymenoptera: Formicidae

Holotype worker: TL 3.2, HL 0.70, HW (omitting lateral tuberculate projections of dorsolateral margins) 0.52 (CI 74), ML 0.32 (MI 46), scape L 0.55, greatest diameter of eye 0.06, WL 0.84 mm. (Measurements and indices are those standard in recent papers on dacetine ants; e.g. Brown, 1962, Psyche 69, cf. p. 254).

Characters as shown in the figures on the reverse sides of Card No. 33 and this card. Only those traits not well shown in the scanning electron micrographs, and those requiring special comment, are discussed below.

Color medium ferruginous, gaster slightly darker, castaneous. Posterodorsal margins of head forming a raised rim extending to posterolateral margins, these expanded at widest point of temples into a small, flat, truncate tubercle on each side; a similar but smaller tubercle in front of this, just dorsal to the eye on each side, bearing a specialized long flagellate hair. Each posterodorsal corner of the vertex with a sulcus paralleling the rim, the sulcus composed of 3-4 partly coalesced foveae with concave, shining bottoms; a similar but larger, triangular basin is formed on the posteromedian vertex by 3-4 of these large foveae. Sculpture of the cephalic dorsum otherwise irregularly rugulose, with intercalary reticulo-punctulation (fig. C); clypeus reticulate-punctate.

Each mandible with an edentate, shallowly concave diastema taking up nearly 1/3 the length of the masticatory margin distad of the basal lamella; followed distad by about 6 low, blunt, irregularly spaced teeth or denticles; apex of mandible with a crowded series of 9-10 short, rounded, platelet-like denticles (fig. A).

Pronotum (fig. D, and Card No. 33, fig. 3) with bluntly tuberculate humeri; broad, depressed disc weakly convex in both directions; but shallowly sulcate just inside the ruggedly-modelled, slightly raised, dorsolateral margins; promesonotal suture also marked by a shallow sulcus. Pronotal disc strongly shining, but the smooth surface rather densely sown with shallow foveolae. Rest of truncal dorsum opaque, reticulate-punctulate, with rugules superimposed, some of them enclosing irregular pits or foveae. Sides of pronotum smooth and shining, but with numerous fine punctures and much hair. Mesopleura shining, finely punctulate; most of fore coxae meso- and metakatepisterna convex, smooth and shining; all surfaces of propodeum densely reticulo-punctulate; petiolar and postpetiolar nodes densely ruguloso-punctulate, opaque, as are legs, antennae and bases of mandibles.

Gaster and mandibles smooth and shining; basal costulae extending about 1/4 the length of the first tergum.

Paired long flagellate hairs on humeri, on dorsolateral margins of mesonotum, and on petiolar node; several long flagellate hairs on postpetiolar disc, and 30 or more on gastric dorsum.

Holotype a unique worker (deposited in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA) taken in a berlesate of rain forest leaf litter and humus in the vicinity of the Laboratoire de Primatologie et d'Écologie Équatoriale of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, near Makokou, Gabon, by Ivan Lieberburg, September to December 1972.

Figures, overleaf: Fig. A, holotype worker, detail of apical portions of mandibles X 522. Fig. B, same, head, side view X 80. Fig. C, same, head, mandibles, left antenna X 96. Fig. D, same, side view composite of trunk, waist and anterior part of gaster X 114.

A Report of Research from the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station. Research supported by National Science Foundation Grant DEB 75-22427. Edited by W. L. Brown, Jr.

