

MYOPOPONE WOLLASTONI SP.N., WITH NOTES ON OTHER FORMS
IN THE GENUS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MALES OF TWO
SPECIES (HYM., FORMICIDAE).

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Myopopone wollastoni sp.n.

♀. Black, shining; antennae, apex of frontal carinae, front of sides of cheeks, posterior border of petiole and of segments of gaster, tibiae and tarsi, apex of femora, trochanters and apex of coxae, reddish-brown; last segment of gaster lighter, teeth of mandibles black. Clothed with long outstanding reddish-yellow hairs which are longer and more plentiful at apex of gaster.

Head, without mandibles, transverse, posterior angles rounded, posterior border sinuate, strongly longitudinally striate including sides and underside of head; the striae extend from apex of frontal carinae to posterior border of head and enclose larger and smaller oblong punctures. There is a smooth, narrow, oblong space on each side of frontal furrow and reaching median ocellus. *Mandibles* striate and punctate; *clypeus* finely transversely striate. *Thorax*: neck of *pronotum* finely striate transversely, the rest punctate and striate as on head; *mesonotum* with widely separated large and shallow oblong punctures and with a deep central furrow extending from a little before middle to base; *prae-scutellum* smooth; *scutellum* with larger and smaller scattered shallow punctures anteriorly, more closely and finely punctured at base; *metanotum* with rather sparse, transverse, shallow punctures; *epinotum* closely and finely transversely striate, much as on neck of pronotum. The sides of the thorax and petiole are longitudinally striate. *Gaster* with larger and smaller scattered shallow punctures. *Wings* brownish, pterostigma and veins dark brown, two cubital and two discoidal cells present, radial cell closed and round at apex. Long. 15 mm.

NEW GUINEA: Mimika River, July, 1910, two winged females (A. F. R. Wollaston).

Type in British Museum (Nat. Hist.).

This species comes nearest to *M. moelleri* Bing., being similar in colour and general appearance. It is a little larger and the sculpture is much stronger and entirely different. The head is a little more transverse and the mandibles more massive.

Myopopone castanea Smith subsp. *maculata* Roger.

♂. Castaneous brown, mandibles, antennae, legs, base of segments, and apex of gaster, yellow, clothed with pale yellow outstanding hairs, more plentiful on head and apex of gaster.

Head, without eyes, longer than broad, posterior angles rounded, posterior border emarginate, slightly rugosely punctured; *mandibles* long, narrow, curved, sharply pointed, the points overreaching, with widely separated shallow punctures on basal half; *clypeus* transverse, narrow, not very convex, rounded in front, sinuate at sides of anterior border, which is faintly margined, and furnished with a number of minute crenulations; *frontal area* indistinct, with a few fine longitudinal striae; frontal furrow indistinct; frontal carinae short, widely

separated; eyes very large, oblong, occupying the greater part of sides of head; ocelli large; *antennae* thick, 13-jointed; scape short, smooth and shining, slightly longer than second joint of funiculus; funiculus finely punctured and pubescent, first joint very short, transverse, all the other joints longer than broad, and of about equal thickness, last joint not as long as the two preceding taken together. *Thorax* broadest before middle; *pronotum* finely punctured, convex on disc, concave before anterior border of neck, which is finely margined, very emarginate posteriorly, suture between pronotum and mesonotum very distinct; *mesonotum* more strongly and widely punctured than pronotum, mayrian furrows fine but distinct; *scutellum* not very convex, with a few fine scattered punctures; *metanotum* smooth and shining; *epinotum* with dorsal surface very finely punctured and transversely striate, declivity slightly impressed in centre, and with stronger transverse striae at base; *petiole* rounded above and at sides, slightly narrowed in front, posterior border straight, smooth and shining, with a very few small faint scattered punctures, with a small sharp tooth on each side before peduncle, and a small round longitudinal projection anteriorly beneath, armed with a sharp curved tooth pointing backwards; *post-petiole* very finely punctured, considerably broader than petiole, convex, rounded at sides, about as broad as long, constriction between it and gaster strongly marked; *gaster* narrowed to apex, first segment broader than post-petiole, very finely punctured; cerci long and hairy; *genitalia* well developed, stipites long, hooked at the base, volsellae curved outwards at apex, laciniae developed, shorter, slightly curved, sagittae with serrated edges; spatha narrow, rather long; subgenital lamina curved, pointed, sinuate on each side before apex. *Wings* iridescent, somewhat infusate, pterostigma brown, veins yellow, two discoidal cells, two cubital cells and closed radial cell slightly appendiculate at apex. Long. 7 mm.

CEYLON: Trincomali, 8.xii.06, 1 ♂ (*T. Bainbrigge Fletcher*).

I have little doubt that this is the male of *maculata* Roger.

Myopopone moelleri Bingham.

♂. Black, shining; antennae, tarsi, articulations of the legs and apex of gaster reddish-yellow.

The male of this species is somewhat smaller, considerably darker in colour, and far less hairy than that of *maculata*. The general structure agrees, but the puncturation is somewhat less pronounced, and the post-petiole and gaster are not so broad in proportion, etc. Long. 6.8 mm.

Described from two males, one ex coll. Smith without locality, presented by Mrs. Farren White (99.303); and the other ex coll. Sykes labelled 'Dukhun' [Decean] (E.I.C. 60, 15). In my opinion this is the male of *moelleri*.

The genus *Myopopone* (subfamily Ponerinae, tribe Amblyoponini) was founded by Roger, 1861, *Berl. ent. Z.*, 5:49. Emery (1911, *Gen. Ins.*, 118:26), when describing the characters of the genus, gives those of the male with a '?' and states: 'Je ne suis pas sûr de la détermination générique de ce mâle.' His characters agree quite well with those of my more complete descriptions, but he does not say where the male insect he describes came from, nor does he give any reference to a description of the male and I have been

unable to find any such description. The following forms have been described:—

Myopone castanea Smith.

= *Amblyopone castanea* Smith, 1860, *J. Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond. (Zool.)*, **4**, Suppl.: 105, Pl. I, fig. 6 [♂, Bachian].

= *M. rufula* Roger, 1861, *Berl. ent. Z.* **5**: 52 [2 ♀♀, Bachian].

Emery, 1911, *Gen. Ins.*, **118**: 26, gives West Australia, New Guinea and Malaysia for this species.

M. castanea Smith subsp. *maculata* Roger.

1861, *Berl. ent. Z.*, **5**: 52 [♂ ♀, Ceylon, Nicobar, Bermanie].

= *M. castanea* Forel, 1900, *J. Bombay nat. hist. Soc.*, **13**: 54 [♂ ♀].

= *M. castanea* Bingham, 1903, *Faun. Brit. India, Hym.*, **2**: 33, fig. 24 [♂ ♀].
[♂, see above.]

M. castanea Smith subsp. *beccarii* Emery.

1887, *Ann. Mus. Stor. Nat. Genova*, **25**: 447 [♂, Ternate, Molluccas].

M. moelleri Bingham.

1903, *Faun. Brit. India, Hym.*, **2**: 34 [♀, Sikhim]. [♂, see above.]

In my opinion this is a good species and not a subspecies, as given by Emery. There are ♀♀ from Sikhim, Ban Silah, Siamese Malay States, Cambodia and Ceylon in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.).

M. moelleri Bingham v. *bugnioni* Forel.

1913, *Zool. Jahrb., Syst.*, **26**: 5 [♂, Ceylon].

M. moelleri Bingham v. *bakeri* Viehmeyer.

1916, *Ent. Mitt.*, **5**: 283 [♂, Philippines].

= *M. castanea* Smith v. *proxima* Stitz, 1925, *SB. Berl. Ges. Naturf. Freunde*, **1923**: 110 [♂, Philippines].

Stitz gives this name without a description of any sort. It is evidently the *Myopopone* which occurs in the Philippines.

M. moelleri Bingham v. *striatifrons* Stitz.

1925, *SB. Berl. Ges. Naturf. Freunde*, **1923**: 110 [♀, Sumatra].

M. picea Donisthorpe.

1938, *Ann. Mag. nat. hist.*, (11) **2**: 498 [♂, Sarawak, Borneo].

M. wollastoni sp.n.

[♀, New Guinea, see above.]

British Museum (Nat. Hist.),

London, S.W.7.

May 14th, 1941.

Figures of Cerylon primroseae Donisthorpe and *C. ferrugineum* Stephens (Col., *Colydiidae*).—The wish expressed above (*antea*, p. 2) that we might be able to illustrate the difference in the punctures of the thorax and the striae of the elytra of these two beetles is gratified in Plate II, figs. 1 and 2.—Eps.