

Taxonomic notes on the ant *Myrmecina nipponica*
Wheeler stat. nov.
(Hymenoptera : Formicidae)

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Summary

The Japanese *Myrmecina* species which has been hetherto treated as a subspecies of European *graminicola* is regarded as a separate species, *M. nipponica* stat. nov., as a result of comparisons between Japanese and European specimens.

Key words: *Myrmecina nipponica*, *Myrmecina graminicola*, new status, Japan, Formicidae

Introduction

Wheeler (1906) described an ant of the genus *Myrmecina* from Japan as a new subspecies of European *Myrmecina graminicola*, namely, *Myrmecina graminicola nipponica*. Since then, the status of the Japanese ant has remained unchanged (Bolton, 1995 : 274). Although The Japanese species resembles *M. graminicola*, Ogata & Terayama (1993) stated that *M. graminicola nipponica* is different from *M. graminicola graminicola* in shapes of the anterior margin of head and propedeal spines and in the rugae on thoracic dorsum. On the other hand, according to Collingwood (1976), "examples from Korea and Japan including all castes do not appear to differ in any way from material from Europe and North America".

I have compared the Japanese specimens with European *graminicola* ones, and have concluded

that the former is a separate species from *graminicola*.

***Myrmecina nipponica* Wheeler stat. nov.**

Myrmecina graminicola subsp. *nipponica* Wheeler, 1906 : 307. Worker. Type locality : Yamanaka, Suruga [Shizuoka Pref.] (2 workers, H. Sauter leg.).

Anterior margin of head and propedeal spines vary in shape so that I could not find significant differences in them between *M. nipponica* and *graminicola*. However, *M. nipponica* differs from *graminicola* on at least 4 points :

(1) Antennal scapes gently curved and more slender near the base in *nipponica*, but in *graminicola* more or less angularly curved and a little widened (Fig. 1).

(2) Rugae on the head and thoracic dorsa irregular in *nipponica* whereas longitudinal and

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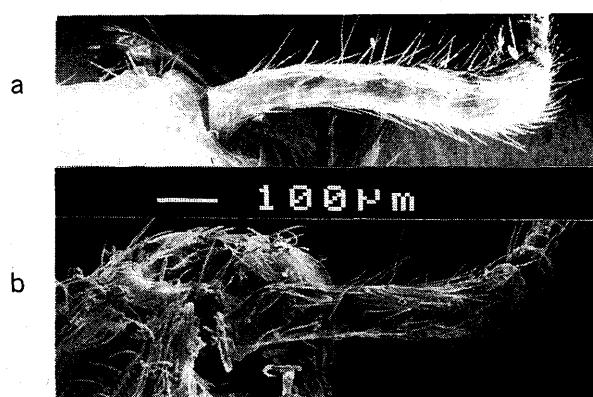


Fig. 1. SEM photographs of antennal scapes in nearly dorsal view of (a) *Myrmecina nipponica* (Kanita-cho, Aomori Pref., Japan) and (b) *M. graminicola* (U.K.).

almost straight in *graminicola*.

(3) Postpetiole longer as compared to its width than in *graminicola*.

(4) Gastral tergite I entirely smooth in *nipponica* whereas microreticulate in *graminicola* (this condition is easily recognized under a magnification of 120 or more).

Based on these differences, I regard *M. nipponica* as a separate species from *graminicola*.

Material examined. HOKKAIDO: <Iburi Region> 3 workers, southwest of Hokkaido University Tomakomai Experiment Forest, Tomakomai, 90m alt., 810919 [six digits indicate collecting date, namely, 19 September 1981], K. Onoyama leg.; 2 minor intercastes (for definition of intercastes, see Ohkawara et al., 1993), 33 workers, 10 male and 22 worker pupae, 9 larvae, Hokkaido University Tomakomai Experiment Forest, Tomakomai, 930825, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 medium intercaste, 9 workers, 1 intercaste, 2 male, and 6 worker pupae, 49 larvae, Hokkaido University Tomakomai Experiment Forest, Tomakomai, 930825, K. Onoyama leg.; <Oshima Region> 2 workers, Hakodateyama, Hakodate, 170m alt., 740820, M. Munakata leg. HONSHU: <Aomori Pref.> 1 queen, Nakashi, Kanita-cho,

30m alt., 930924, K. Onoyama leg.; 9 workers, Nakashi, Kanita-cho, 20m alt., 930924, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, 5 workers, Nakashi, Kanita-cho, 20m alt., 930924, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, 4 workers, 1 male pupa, Nakashi, Kanita-cho, 20m alt., 930924, K. Onoyama leg.; 8 workers, Nakashi, Kanita-cho, 20m alt., 930924, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, Motoutetsu, Minmaya-mura, 10m alt., 930925, K. Onoyama leg.; <Tokyo Pref.> 2 workers, 5 km north of Habu, Izu Oshima Island, 350m alt., 741127, K. Onoyama leg.; <Ishikawa Pref.> 1 queen, Onsenyama, Mt. Hakusan, 721013, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, Kanazawa Univ., Kanazawa, 900613, S. Amano leg.; <Kyoto Pref.> 1 worker, Kamigamo, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 130m alt., 710629, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, Yoshidayama, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 90m alt., 730522, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Yoshidayama, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 80m alt., 741114, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Kanmurijima, Maizuru Bay, 10m alt., 740819, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Yoshidayama, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 70m alt., 730503, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, Yoshidayama, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 80m alt., 750603, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Yoshidayama, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 80m alt., 750814, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Nagatani-ike, Seika-cho, 90m alt., 920322, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Nagatani-ike, Seika-cho, 90m alt., 920331, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Tanabe-cho, 80m alt., 930721, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Tanabe-cho, 80m alt., 930726, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, Tanabe-cho, 70m alt., 930921, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Tanabe-cho, 80m alt., 940523, K. Onoyama leg.; <Nara Pref.> 1 worker, Yoshino-onsen, Mt. Yoshino, 260m alt., 750906, Y. Nishikawa leg.; <Wakayama Pref.> 1 worker, Shionomisaki, 20m alt., 731030, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 worker, Hatakejima, 0 m alt., 731101, K. Onoyama leg.; <Nagasaki Pref.> 1 worker, Oura, Tsushima Island, 170m alt., 780330, K. Onoyama leg.; 1 queen, 1 worker, Mt. Tatsura, Tsushima Island, 130m alt., 780401, K. Onoyama

leg. KYUSHU: <Kagoshima Pref.> 1 worker, Kurio, Yaku Island, 700411, T. Abe leg.;

M. graminicola specimens examined for comparison are as follows: 1 worker and 2 queens, Kingston, Dorset, U. K., ix-1953, C. A. Collingwood leg.; 1 worker, Lheodar, U. K., ix-1953, C. A. Collingwood leg.; 1 worker, Gerona, SPAIN, 24-viii-1975, M. Tanaka leg.

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カドフシアリ *Myrmecina nipponica* Wheeler
に関する分類学的知見

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摘要

ヨーロッパ産と日本産の標本を比較した結果、これまでヨーロッパ産の亜種として扱われてきた日本産のカドフシアリを独立種とし、*Myrmecina nipponica* として昇格させた。