

DESCRIPTION OF THE MALE OF STRUMIGENYS
LOUISIANAE SUBSP. LATICEPHALA M. R. SMITH.
(Hymen.: Formicidae).

GORDON W. HAUG,
A. & M. College, Mississippi.¹

Strumigenys louisianae subsp. *laticephala* was described for the first time by Dr. M. R. Smith in his paper on *Strumigenys*.² The male of this ant, collected for the first time, is here described.

For notes on the distribution and habits of the members of the genus *Strumigenys*, the reader is referred to this recent paper of Dr. Smith.

***Strumigenys louisianae* subsp. *laticephala* M. R. Smith**
(Text Figs. 1 and 2.)

Strumigenys louisianae subsp. *laticephala*.

M. R. SMITH. Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer., XXIV, (1931), 690-691, worker.

Male. Length 2.2 mm.

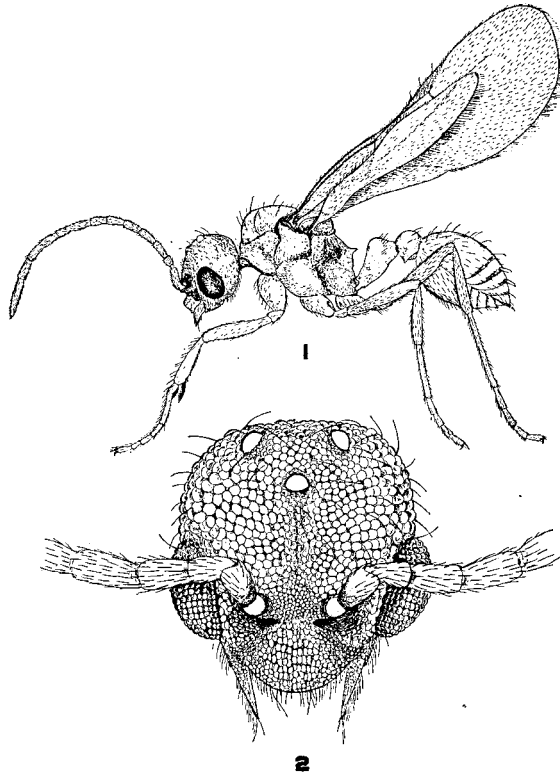
Head, excluding the mandibles, slightly longer than its width above the eyes. Eyes large, convex, sub-elliptical, and placed very close to the base of the mandibles. Ocelli conspicuous, almost colorless, and arranged in the form of a triangle with the distance between the two lateral ocelli greater than that between the median ocellus and one of the lateral ocelli. Mandibles small, poorly developed, and toothless. In shape they are elongate, tapering to very acute apical points. Clypeus strongly convex, in lateral profile protuberant. Antennal fossæ appearing as deep impressions along the sides of the head, extending from the base of the clypeus to almost the upper extremities of the compound eyes. Antennæ long, filiform, and of thirteen segments. Scape short, slightly longer than the first funicular segment which is subglobular.

Thorax robust, notauli (Mayrian furrows) on the anterior portion of the mesonotum very distinct, appearing as deep, rough grooves, which become shallow towards the median line and almost indistinguishable the remainder of the distance. They appear, therefore, as the unconnected arms of a "V." Mesonotum with a deep impression extending almost the entire length of the median line and with distinct parapsidal furrows.

¹A contribution from the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station.

²Smith, M. R., "A revision of the genus *Strumigenys* of America north of Mexico, based on a study of the workers," Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer., XXIV, (1931), 686-710.

Wings with faint, pale brownish veins; iridescent. Anterior wings each with a closed costal and subcostal cell, and bearing many short, suberect hairs on the surfaces and around the anterior margins, and long ciliated hairs on the posterior margin around to the point where the discoidal and subdiscoidal vein approximates the posterior margin of the wing. Posterior wings lanceolate in shape, veinless, with many short suberect hairs on their surfaces and anterior borders, and long ciliated hairs on their posterior borders.



Male of *Strumigenys louisianæ* subsp. *laticephala* M. R. Smith.

Fig. 1. Lateral view of body.

Fig. 2. Anterior view of head.

(All greatly enlarged. Illustrations by Mrs. S. H. DeBord.)

Legs long and slender. Epinotum sharply declinate, the basal surface and declivity subequal, and with the spiracle occurring on the posterior declivity of a prominent conical lateral elevation. Epinotal spines as broad as long, blunt, and directed backward and outward. Petiole, when viewed in lateral profile, with a low, moderately rounded node. Posterior border of superior margin faintly impressed medianly.

Postpetiole, viewed from above, transversely elliptical, one and one-half times the width of the petiole, with a transverse, acute ridge on its ventral surface.

Ground color of the body black, with an iridescent or metallic hue. Legs similar, with the tibiæ and tarsi paler. Mandibles and antennæ dusky brown.

Mandibles indistinctly but finely punctulate. Head and thorax, with the exception of the mesopleuræ, subopaque and coarsely punctate. Petiole, postpetiole, and gaster more finely so, with their dorsal surfaces smooth and shining.

Antennal hairs suberect, dense, and yellow. Those on the head, thorax and gaster rather sparse and darker in color.

Described from five alate males, which, with a dealated queen and 77 workers, were found by the writer, nesting under a discarded pot of earth in a Bermuda grass pasture at West Point, Mississippi, on June 20, 1930.

Cotypes are in the collections of the Department of Entomology of the Mississippi A. & M. College, Dr. M. R. Smith, and the writer.

Acknowledgment is due Dr. M. R. Smith, who has given many helpful suggestions in the preparation of this description.

BOOK NOTICE.

PLECOPTERA NYMPHS OF AMERICA (NORTH OF MEXICO), by PETER W. CLAASSEN, pp. 1-199, colored frontispiece and 238 figures on 35 plates; Thomas Say Foundation Vol. III, Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois.

It seems superfluous to write a notice of a volume published by this Society, but we wish to call attention to this book on the nymphs of the Plecoptera which is a companion work to the Thomas Say Foundation Volume II, Plecoptera of North America. It is the only monographic treatise on the nymphs of the American species of this order of insects. The most prominent value of the volume lies in its numerous excellent illustrations. Professor Claassen is a good artist besides which help on the illustrations was available from the Heckscher Foundation. This type of work is very stimulating to the Editor as it brings on the old craving to cast every thing aside and to revert to the field and systematic entomology. Such an urge indicates that Professor Claassen has accomplished more than the mere writing of an excellent monograph. The table at the end of the volume shows that the nymphs of only sixty-eight of the two hundred and twelve described species are known. The volume makes possible intensive study of life histories, as every area of rapid streams north of Mexico contains undescribed material to be had for the collecting. Too few American entomologists realize the opportunities in the field of systematic entomology in North America. We are envied by every European entomologist. It has been bruited about that there exist American entomologists who look down upon systematic entomology, but pioneering work of the type done by Professor Claassen should make even these, if such really exist, begin to suspect that their point of view is open to serious question.—C. H. K.