



# Grappling with homoplasy: taxonomic refinements and reassignments in the ant genera *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae)

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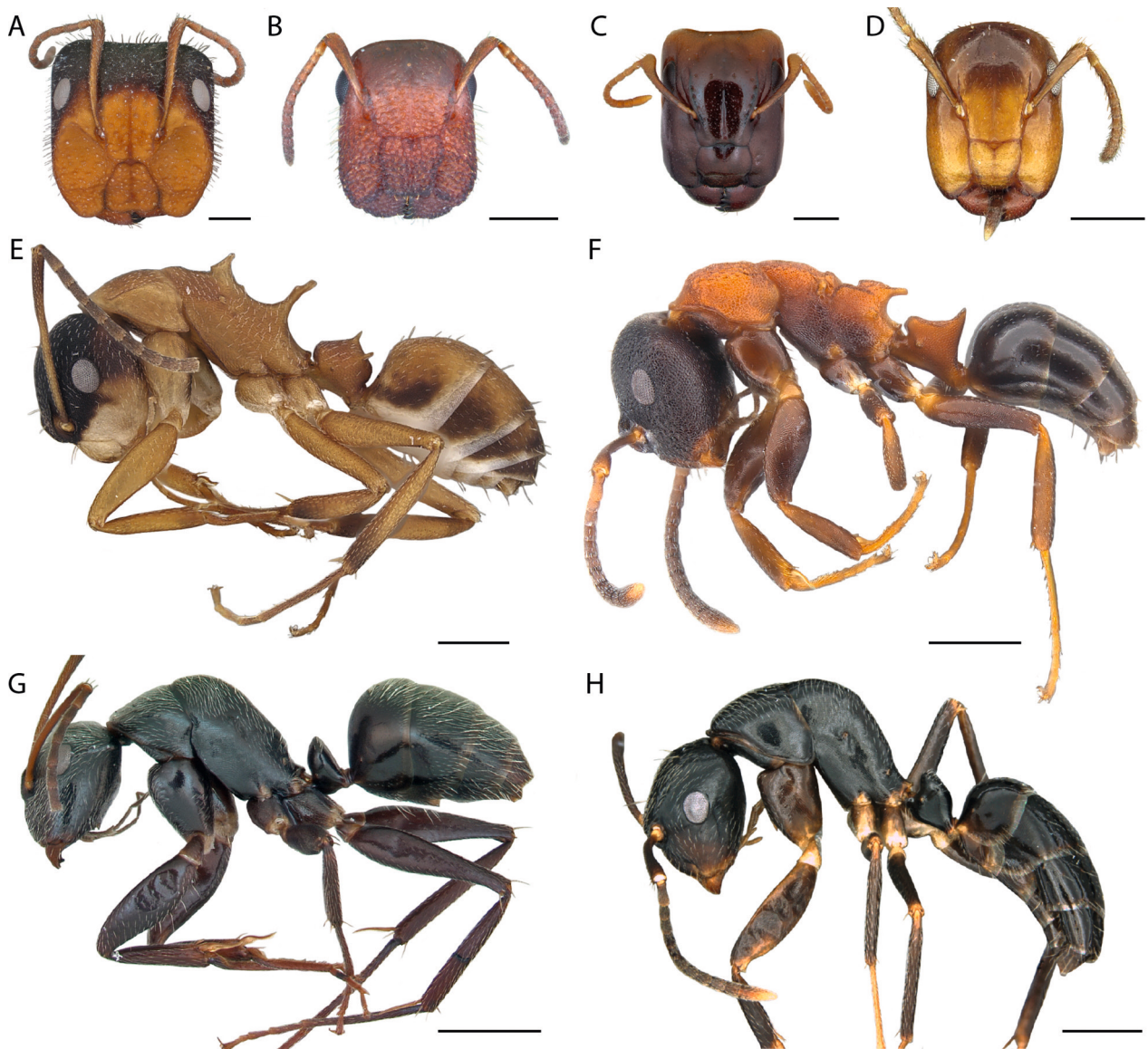
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## Abstract

*Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* are widely distributed and species-rich genera in the ant tribe Camponotini. Molecular phylogenetic studies demonstrate that they are not sister taxa, but several lineages within each genus have converged to a remarkable degree, confounding the taxonomy of these ants. Based on multiple lines of evidence, including worker and male morphology, we demonstrate that: (1) three species of “*Camponotus*” belonging to the subgenus *Myrmotemnus*, including its type species, are in fact members of the genus *Colobopsis*; (2) four species previously assigned to *Colobopsis* belong to the subgenus *Myrmamblyx* of *Camponotus*; and (3) three Nearctic taxa recently placed in *Colobopsis* are members of the genus *Camponotus* and closely related to *Camponotus clarithorax*. These taxonomic findings yield the following new or revived combinations: *Colobopsis moeschi* (**comb. nov.**), *Colobopsis moeschi lygaea* (**comb. nov.**), *Colobopsis nutans* (**comb. nov.**), *Colobopsis nutans cleliae* (**comb. nov.**), and *Colobopsis reichenspergeri* (**comb. nov.**); *Camponotus apostemata* (**comb. nov.**), *Camponotus aurelianus* (**comb. rev.**), *Camponotus cavibregma* (**comb. nov.**), *Camponotus horrens* (**comb. rev.**), *Camponotus politae* (**comb. rev.**), *Camponotus trajanus* (**comb. rev.**), and *Camponotus yogi* (**comb. rev.**). A further consequence is the following generic synonymy (senior synonym listed first): *Colobopsis* = *Myrmotemnus* **syn. nov.**, and *Camponotus* = *Dolophra* **syn. rev.** At the species level, we argue that *Camponotus apostemata* and *Camponotus cavibregma* are junior synonyms (**syn. nov.**) of *Camponotus yogi*, and *Camponotus quercicola* is a junior synonym (**syn. nov.**) of *Ca. laevigatus*. Taxonomic comments are also provided on some members of the *Camponotus reticulatus* group, with *Camponotus adustus* (**stat. nov.**) and *Ca. leucodiscus* (**stat. rev.**) being recognized as distinct species rather than subspecies of *Ca. bellus*. A male-based diagnosis of the Camponotini is provided, and differences between the males of *Colobopsis* and *Camponotus* are documented and illustrated for the first time. This study reveals new character systems of potential value to the systematics of these ants, including features of the male genitalia, and emphasizes the value of reciprocal illumination between phylogenomics and critical morphological analysis.

## Key words

Convergent evolution, taxonomy, phylogeny, identification, morphology, male genitalia.



**Figure 1.** Examples of convergent evolution between *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis*: phragmosis in A and B; shiny elongate heads in C and D; coarse sculpture and spination across tagmata in E and F; and anteroposteriorly compressed and dorsally bulging mesosomata in G and H. Scale bars: 0.5 mm for A–F, 1.0 mm for G, H. **A:** *Camponotus ulcerosus* (CASENT0102784). **B:** *Colobopsis obliqua* (CASENT0103722). **C:** *Camponotus claviscapus* (JTL000004447). **D:** *Colobopsis markli* (CASENT0911638). **E:** *Camponotus heathi* (CASENT0173421). **F:** *Colobopsis dentata* (CASENT0177557). **G:** *Camponotus helleri* (CASENT0173421), dorsal pilosity of body omitted. **H:** *Colobopsis schmeltzi* (CASENT0180467), dorsal pilosity of body omitted. Images from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographers April Nobile (A–C, G), Zach (Ziv) Lieberman (D), Shannon Hartman (E), Eli Sarnat (F), Evan Economo (H).

## 1. Introduction

Evolution is a heterogeneous process, occurring at variable rates in different lineages (Simpson 1953) and across different body structures (Hennig 1957). In hyperdiverse groups, such as ants, we find evidence for varying degrees of divergence from ancestral conditions. Large ant clades often contain a mixture of slower-evolving species that appear to have retained many original characteristics as well as highly divergent taxa that have evolved to the point where certain ancestral features are lost or indiscernible. Examples of this pattern include the “army ants” within the subfamily Dorylinae (Borowiec 2019), numer-

ous genera of the Ponerinae (Schmidt 2013, Schmidt and Shattuck 2014), and social parasites in the Myrmicinae (Rabeling et al. 2014, Ward et al. 2015, Prebus 2017). In addition to this variable rate of evolutionary divergence, ants also show a strong propensity for convergent evolution of certain features in the worker caste, particularly with respect to defensive traits such as spines (Blanchard and Moreau 2017), morphology of the major worker (Hölldobler and Wilson 1990), and chemical weaponry (Hermann and Blum 1981). These evolutionary dynamics pose considerable challenges to ant systematics and, in

particular, to the establishment of a ranked, phylogenetic classification (Ward 2011).

The two ant genera that are the subject of this paper, *Camponotus* Mayr and *Colobopsis* Mayr, exemplify this situation. The latter genus was established for those taxa whose major workers have markedly truncate (phragmotic) heads, used for blocking nest entrances (Mayr 1861). As species of *Camponotus* were discovered with similar phenotypes, however, the morphological justification for retention of the two genera appeared to weaken (Fig. 1). Eventually, *Colobopsis* was treated as a subgenus of *Camponotus* (e.g., Emery 1925, Bolton 2003). Recent molecular studies, employing UCE (ultra-conserved element) phylogenomic data, have demonstrated that *Colobopsis* is a phylogenetically distinct group, considerably distant from *Camponotus*, and sister to all other members of the tribe Camponotini (Blaimer et al. 2015). As a consequence, *Colobopsis* was resurrected as an independent genus, and 94 species were transferred from *Camponotus* to *Colobopsis* (Ward et al. 2016). Attempts to produce a simple worker-based diagnosis of both genera proved to be difficult, however, because of the large amount of variation observed in both clades, compounded by a confusing blend of convergent and divergent evolution.

Here we provide evidence that additional changes are needed to the taxonomy of these two genera. Specifically, certain species that are currently placed in *Camponotus* in fact belong to *Colobopsis*, and vice-versa. In this paper we justify these changes, clarify the species-level taxonomy of several taxa, and document, for the first time, diagnostic features of male Camponotini and differences between males of the two genera.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. Methods

This study is based on direct examination of specimens in collections, scrutiny of images on AntWeb (<https://www.antweb.org>), AntWiki (<https://www.antwiki.org>), and MCZbase (<https://mczbase.mcz.harvard.edu>), and interrogation of the original taxonomic literature. Images of male genitalia were taken using a JVC KY-F57U digital camera mounted on a Leica MZ 16A microscope, with resultant z-stacks processed via Auto-Montage Pro (Synoptics Ltd., Cambridge, England), Adobe Photoshop 2020, and Adobe Illustrator 2020 (Adobe Systems Inc., California, USA).

### 2.2. Terminology

Terminology was used from the following sources: cranium (Richter et al. 2019, 2020), worker mesosoma (Liu et al. 2019), alate mesosoma (Boudinot 2015), wing venation (Brown and Nutting 1950), genitalia (Boudinot 2018), setational stature (Wilson 1955), and sculpture (Harris 1979). Genitalic term equivalencies among key

works are as follows (see also Boudinot (2013) and references with cited studies): *cupula* (= basal ring of Snodgrass (1941, 1957)), *gonopod* (= gonopodites in the strict sense, parameres of Snodgrass (1941, 1957), latimeres of Schulmeister (2001), stipites of Kempf (1956), stipes of Birket-Smith (1981)), *gonocoxa* (= gonocoxite in the strict sense, basimere of Snodgrass (1957), gonostipes of Schulmeister (2001)), *gonostylus* (= telomere or harpago of Snodgrass (1957), harpe of Schulmeister (2001)), *volsella* (= volsella), *cuspis* (= cuspis or distivolsella), *gonapophysis* (= digitus of Snodgrass (1941, 1957); Schulmeister (2001)), *penial sclerite* (= aedeagal sclerite of Snodgrass (1941, 1957), sagitta of Snodgrass (1957), penisvalva of Schulmeister (2001)).

### 2.3. Morphometrics

The following metric measurements and indices are employed for workers (see also Ward et al. 2016):

- HW** Head width: maximum width of head, excluding the eyes.
- HL** Head length: midline length of head from the anterior clypeal margin to a line drawn across the posterior margin of the head (medial indentations on either margin do not decrease length).
- SL** Scape length: length of first antennal segment, excluding the basal constriction.
- WL** Weber's length: length of mesosoma, taken in lateral view from the anterior margin of the pronotum, excluding the pronotal collar, to the posteroventral extremity of the metapleuron.
- ASM** Minimum distance between the antennal sclerites (inter-torular distance).
- CLW** Clypeus width: width of clypeus, taken at the anterior tentorial pits.
- CLL** Clypeus length: maximum measurable length of clypeus, taken along the midline, in an anterodorsal view, from a line drawn across posterior margin to a line across the anterior margin (medial indentations on either margin do not decrease length).

### 2.4. Repositories

- AMNH** American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA
- BEBC** Brendon E. Boudinot collection, University of California, Davis, California, USA
- BMNH** Natural History Museum, London, UK
- CASC** California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, USA
- CPDC** Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau, Itabuna, Bahia, Brazil
- CSCA** California State Collection of Arthropods, Sacramento, California, USA
- DZUP** Coleção Entomológica Padre Jesus Santiago Moure, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil

<b>INBC</b>	Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, Heredia, Costa Rica
<b>INPA</b>	Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil
<b>JTLC</b>	John T. Longino collection, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
<b>LACM</b>	Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, California, USA
<b>MCZC</b>	Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
<b>MHNG</b>	Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva, Switzerland
<b>MLBC</b>	Marek L. Borowiec collection, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, USA
<b>MSNG</b>	Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "Giacomo Doria", Genova, Italy
<b>MZSP</b>	Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
<b>NHMW</b>	Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria
<b>PSWC</b>	Philip S. Ward collection, University of California, Davis, California, USA
<b>UCDC</b>	Bohart Museum of Entomology, University of California, Davis, California, USA
<b>USNM</b>	National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, USA.

## 2.5. *Camponotus* species for which males were examined

*Camponotus* (*Camponotus*) Mayr: *Ca. americanus* Mayr, *Ca. chromaoides* Bolton, *Ca. herculeanus* (Linnaeus), *Ca. japonicus* Mayr, *Ca. laevissimus* MacKay, *Ca. modoc* Wheeler, *Ca. sp. nr. modoc*, *Ca. novaeboracensis* (Fitch), *Ca. pennsylvanicus* (De Geer), *Ca. quercicola* M.R. Smith, *Ca. saxatilis* Ruszky, *Ca. schaefferi* Wheeler, *Ca. vagus* (Scopoli).

*Camponotus* (*Dendromyrmex*) Emery: *Ca. nitidior* (Santschi).

*Camponotus* (*Karavaievia*) Emery: *Ca. overbecki* Viehmeyer.

*Camponotus* (*Mayria*) Forel: *Ca. christi* Forel, *Ca. gibber* Forel, *Ca. immaculatus* Forel, *Ca. maculiventris* Emery, *Ca. manabo* Rakotonirina & Fisher, *Ca. quadrimaculatus* Forel, *Ca. quadrimaculatus sellaris* Emery, *Ca. raina* Rakotonirina & Fisher, *Ca. repens* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) Forel: *Ca. bellus* Forel, *Ca. reticulatus sericellus* Viehmeyer, *Ca. thomasseti* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmaphaenus*) Emery: *Ca. hermanni* Emery, *Ca. novogranadensis* Mayr, *Ca. salvini* Forel, *Ca. indet.*

*Camponotus* (*Myrmentoma*) Forel: *Ca. anthrax* Wheeler, *Ca. bakeri* Wheeler, *Ca. clarithorax* Creighton, *Ca. cuauhtemoc* Snelling, *Ca. dalmaticus* (Nylander), *Ca. decipiens* Emery, *Ca. discolor* (Buckley), *Ca. essigi* M.R. Smith, *Ca. fallax* (Nylander), *Ca. hyatti* Emery, *Ca. lateralis* (Olivier), *Ca. nearcticus* Emery, *Ca. rectithorax* Forel, *Ca. sayi* Emery, *Ca. cf. sayi*.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmeponotus*) Santschi: *Ca. edmondi* André, *Ca. ethicus* Forel, *Ca. robustus* Roger.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmespera*) Santschi: *Ca. emarginatus* Emery.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmeuryntota*) Forel: *Ca. augustei* Wheeler & Mann, *Ca. linnaei* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmobrachys*) Forel: *Ca. abscisus* Roger, *Ca. brettessi* Forel, *Ca. brevis* Forel, *Ca. cameranoi* Emery, *Ca. cuneidorsus* Emery, *Ca. dimorphus* Emery, *Ca. excisus* Mayr, *Ca. planatus* Roger,

*Ca. senex* (F. Smith), *Ca. textor* Forel, *Ca. trapezoideus* Mayr, *Ca. indet.*

*Camponotus* (*Myrmocladoecus*) Wheeler: *Ca. bidens* Mayr, *Ca. bispinosus* Mayr, *Ca. cf. bispinosus*, *Ca. mucronatus* Emery, *Ca. planus* F. Smith, *Ca. raphaelis* Forel, *Ca. rectangularis* Emery, *Ca. cf. sanctaefidei*.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmonesites*) Emery: *Ca. putatus* Forel, *Ca. reaumuri* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmophyma*) Forel: *Ca. dromedaries* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmopiromis*) Wheeler: *Ca. darwini* Forel, *Ca. descarpentrii* Santschi, *Ca. detritus* Emery, *Ca. fulvopilosus* (De Geer), *Ca. madagascarensis* Forel, *Ca. niveosetosus* Mayr, *Ca. voeltzkowii* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmoplatypus*) Santschi: *Ca. banghaasi* Emery.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmopsamma*) Forel: *Ca. mystaceus* Emery.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmopytia*) Emery: *Ca. imitator* Forel, *Ca. longicollis* Rasoamanana et al.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmosericus*) Forel: *Ca. auropubens* Forel, *Ca. cruentatus* (Latreille), *Ca. micans* (Nylander), *Ca. indet.*

*Camponotus* (*Myrmosphincta*) Forel: *Ca. sexguttatus* (Fabricius), *Ca. urichi sculnus* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmostenus*) Emery: *Ca. mirabilis* Emery.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmothrix*) Forel: *Ca. atriceps* (F. Smith), *Ca. cf. cingulatus*, *Ca. floridanus* (Buckley), *Ca. renggeri* Emery.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmotrema*) Forel: *Ca. bayeri* Forel, *Ca. grandidieri* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Orthonotomyrmex*) Ashmead: *Ca. mayri* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Paramyrmamblys*) Santschi: *Ca. ostiarius* Forel.

*Camponotus* (*Phasmomyrmex*) Stitz: *Ca. aberrans* Mayr.

*Camponotus* (*Pseudocolobopsis*) Emery: *Ca. alboannulatus nessus* Forel, *Ca. claviscapus* Forel, *Ca. curviscapus* Emery, *Ca. macilentus* F. Smith, *Ca. macrocephalus* Emery, *Ca. indet.*

*Camponotus* (*Tanaemyrmex*) Ashmead: *Ca. aegyptiacus* Emery, *Ca. aethiops* (Latreille), *Ca. cf. aethiops*, *Ca. ager* F. Smith, *Ca. albicoxis* Forel, *Ca. angusticollis* (Jerdon), *Ca. baldaccii* Emery, *Ca. bonanensis luteolus* Emery, *Ca. carin tipunus* Forel, *Ca. castaneus* (Latreille), *Ca. conspicuus sharpi* Forel, *Ca. conspicuus zonatus* Emery, *Ca. distinguendus* (Spinola), *Ca. dufouri* Forel, *Ca. dumetorum* Wheeler, *Ca. fedtschenkoi* Mayr, *Ca. festinatus* (Buckley), *Ca. foleyi fezzanensis* Bernard, *Ca. foleyi grasi* Bernard, *Ca. foleyi pseudocompressus* Özdikmen, *Ca. gouldi* Forel, *Ca. hildebrandti* Forel, *Ca. hova fulvus* Emery, *Ca. inaequalis* Roger, *Ca. irritans* (F. Smith), *Ca. kubaryi* Mayr, *Ca. latebrosus* (Walker), *Ca. maccooki* Forel, *Ca. maculatus* (Fabricius), *Ca. maritimus* Ward, *Ca. morosus* (F. Smith), *Ca. nitens* Mayr, *Ca. obreptivus* Forel, *Ca. ocreatus* Emery, *Ca. polymorphicus* Mackay et al., *Ca. punctulatus* Mayr, *Ca. cf. punctulatus*, *Ca. reburrus* Mackay, *Ca. roseli* Forel, *Ca. sansabeanus* (Buckley), *Ca. semitestaceus* Snelling, *Ca. socius* Roger, *Ca. strangulatus* Santschi, *Ca. cf. substitutus*, *Ca. tortuganus* Emery, *Ca. variegatus ambonensis* Karavaiev, *Ca. vicinus* Mayr.

*Camponotus* (unplaced to subgenus): *Ca. alamaina* Rakotonirina et al., *Ca. armstrongi* McAreavey.

## 2.6. *Colobopsis* species for which males were examined

*Colobopsis clerodendri* Emery, *Co. conithorax* (Emery), *Co. cylindrical* group spp., *Co. dentata* Mayr, *Co. etiolata* (Wheeler), *Co. gasserii* Forel, *Co. impressa* Roger, *Co. leonardi* (Emery), *Co. macrocephala*

(Erichson), *Co. moeschi* (Forel), *Co. moeschi lygaea* (Viehmeier), *Co. papago* (Creighton), *Co. polynesica* (Emery), *Co. obliqua* (M. R. Smith), *Co. quadriceps* (F. Smith), *Co. schmeltzi* (Mayr), *Co. severini* (Forel), *Co. sommeri* Forel, *Co. truncata* (Spinola), *Co. vitrea* group sp. indet., *Colobopsis* spp. indet. (Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, USA, Vanuatu).

Species evaluated solely from the literature: *Co. aruensis* (Karavaiev) [Klimes & McArthur (2014)], *Co. badia* (F. Smith) [Laciny et al. (2018)], *Co. explodens* Laciny & Zettel [Laciny et al. (2018)], *Co. rotunda* (Klimes & McArthur) [Klimes & McArthur (2014)].

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. New generic combinations

In effecting these changes in generic assignment, we are guided by the differences in worker morphology uncovered in Ward et al. (2016), which are corroborated by character differences in the larvae and pupae, and by molecular phylogenetic data (Wernegreen et al. 2009, Blaimer et al. 2015, Clouse et al. 2015). In general, minor workers of *Colobopsis* can be distinguished from those of *Camponotus* by their more widely separated antennal insertions (ASM/HW 0.36–0.47, versus ASM/HW 0.22–0.35 in *Camponotus*), placement of those antennal insertions at about midlength of the frontal carinae (farther forward in *Camponotus*), and a relatively narrow, subquadrate clypeus (Ward et al. 2016). Exceptions occur, however, most notably among the *Colobopsis* species in New Caledonia and Fiji—where *Camponotus* is not well represented—and in the *Colobopsis cylindrica* group. The taxa in this paper that are subject to taxonomic reassignment are not members of the *Co. cylindrica* group nor part of the exceptional Pacific island radiations.

##### 3.1.1. Transfers from *Camponotus* to *Colobopsis*

The *Camponotus* subgenus *Myrmotemnus* Emery currently contains five nominal species and two subspecies, all restricted to the Indomalayan region. The worker caste is characterized by having a strongly impressed metanotal groove, raised dorsal face of the propodeum, and compound eyes placed in a relatively posterior position on the head (Emery 1925, Santschi 1926). Examination of the type species of this subgenus, *Ca. moeschi* Forel, shows that it is clearly a species of *Colobopsis*: the antennal insertions are well separated (ASM/HW 0.43–0.44, ASM/CLW 0.82–0.89) and occur at about the midlength of the frontal carinae, and the clypeus is relatively narrow (CLW/CLL ~1.12) (Fig. 2A). This is observed in material collected recently in Sabah, Malaysia (CASENT0863455) and in a syntype worker from Sumatra illustrated on AntWeb (CASENT0910546). Accordingly, this species becomes *Colobopsis moeschi* (Forel) **comb. nov.**, and *Myrmotemnus* is a junior synonym (**syn. nov.**) of *Colobopsis*.

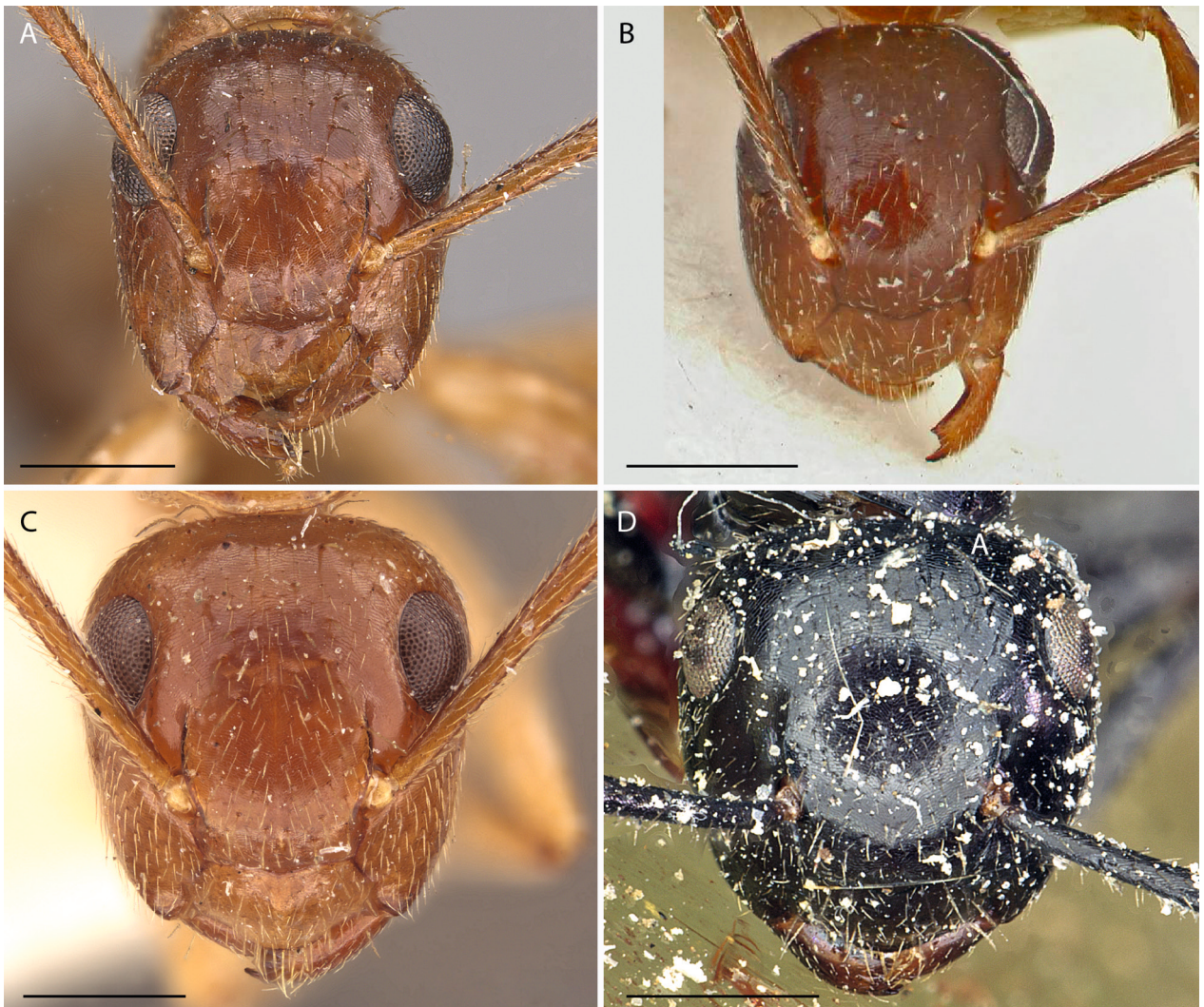
Four of the other taxa that were placed in *Camponotus* (*Myrmotemnus*) also exhibit widely spaced antennal insertions and other features of *Colobopsis* and are hereby transferred to that genus: *Colobopsis moeschi lygaea* (Viehmeier) **comb. nov.** (Fig. 2B), *Co. nutans* (Mayr) **comb. nov.** (Fig. 2C), *Co. nutans cleliae* (Santschi) **comb. nov.**, and *Co. reichenspergeri* (Santschi) **comb. nov.** (Fig. 2D). Although we justify these changes based upon worker morphology, a male specimen of *Co. moeschi lygaea* (Fig. 11H, P, X) has the genital features characteristic of *Colobopsis* (see below). In addition, UCE (ultra-conserved element) phylogenomic data place this taxon in *Colobopsis*, close to *Colobopsis vitrea* (Ward, unpublished).

The two remaining species associated with *Camponotus* (*Myrmotemnus*) are retained in *Camponotus*. *Camponotus hypoclineoides* Wheeler has the antennal insertions relatively closely positioned (ASM/HW 0.33) and anterior to the mid-length of the frontal carinae (Fig. 3A). It is reassigned to the subgenus *Karavaievia* Emery, where it was placed by Santschi (1926: 601). This is also consistent with Wheeler's (1919) assertion that *Ca. hypoclineoides* is related to *Ca. dolichoderoides* Forel, a current member of subgenus *Karavaievia* (Dumpert et al. 2006). *Camponotus impressilabris* Stitz also shows the frontoclypeal configuration typical of *Camponotus* (ASM/HW 0.29, ASM/CLW 0.63) (Fig. 3B), and is here assigned to *Camponotus* subgenus *Orthonotomyrmex* Ashmead, based on structural features shared with other species in that subgenus: a bidentate propodeum, nodiform petiole, and matte integument.

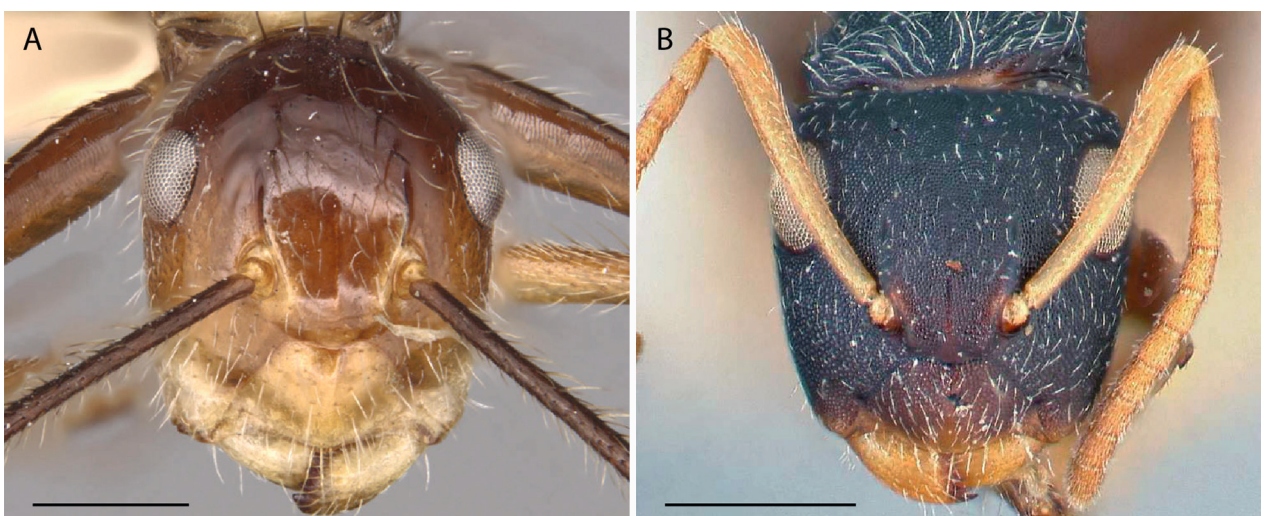
##### 3.1.2. Transfers from *Colobopsis* to *Camponotus*

The *Camponotus* subgenus *Myrmamblys* Forel contains a diverse array of species, found mostly in the Indo-Australian region (Emery 1925, Bolton 1995). The workers are small to medium in size, and worker polymorphism is pronounced. The soldiers usually have the head longer than wide, and often obliquely truncate (with the truncation encompassing the entire clypeus), while the head of the minor worker is broader with more rounded sides. Within this subgenus, Emery (1925) recognized a group of species that he called the *Ca. reticulatus* group, and which he characterized as follows: mesosoma dorsum of worker continuous or interrupted, but not constricted in front of the propodeum; and dorsum of propodeum often saddle-shaped in profile but neither marginate nor compressed. Some members of the *Ca. reticulatus* group superficially resemble *Colobopsis*, as a consequence of their small size, propodeal profile, and soldiers with partially phragmotic heads. We have discovered the following four species, currently placed in *Colobopsis*, which actually belong to *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) and which have affinities to the *Ca. reticulatus* group. Previous molecular work has confirmed that the *Ca. reticulatus* group is part of *Camponotus* (Wernegreen et al. 2009, Blaimer et al. 2015).

*Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *horrens* Forel (**comb. rev.**) (Fig. 4A, B) has closely placed antennal insertions (ASM/HW 0.25) and a broad clypeus, which preclude its place-



**Figure 2.** Representatives of former *Camponotus* subgenus *Myrmetemnus*, now in *Colobopsis*; full-face (dorsal) views of head of minor worker, scale bars = 0.5 mm. **A:** Syntype worker of *Colobopsis moeschi* (CASENT0910546). **B:** Syntype worker of *Colobopsis moeschi lygaea* (FOCOL2270). **C:** Holotype worker of *Colobopsis nutans* (CASENT0915604). **D:** Holotype worker of *Colobopsis reichenspergeri* (CASENT0911793). Images from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographers Will Ericson (A), Christiana Klingenberg (B), Daniela Lehner (C), and Zach (Ziv) Lieberman (D).



**Figure 3.** Representatives of former *Camponotus* subgenus *Myrmetemnus*, retained in *Camponotus*; full-face (dorsal) views of head of minor worker; scale bars = 0.5 mm. **A:** Holotype worker of *Camponotus hypoclineoides* (MCZ-ENT00021520), image from MCZbase (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, copyright President and Fellows of Harvard College). **B:** Syntype worker of *Camponotus impressilabris* (FOCOL2273), image from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographer Christiana Klingenberg.

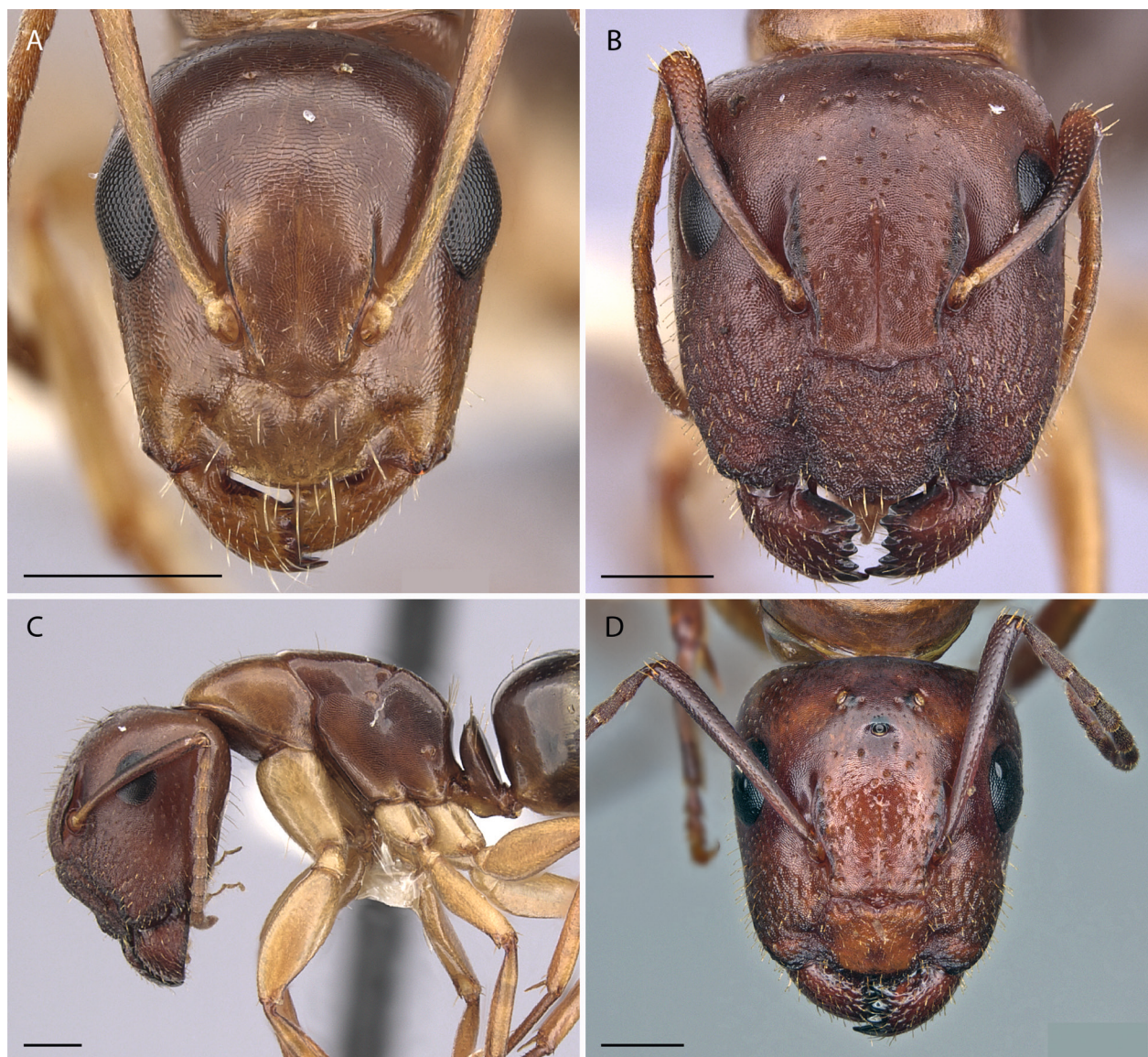


**Figure 4.** Taxa formerly in *Colobopsis*, now assigned to *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*); full-face (dorsal) views of head of minor worker (A, C, E) and lateral views of body (B, D, F); scale bars = 1.0 mm. A, B: Syntype worker of *Camponotus horrens* (CASENT0910609). C, D: Syntype worker of *Camponotus aurelianus* (CASENT0910598). E, F: Syntype worker of *Camponotus trajanus* (CASENT0910612). Images from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographer Will Ericson.

ment in *Colobopsis*. Little is known about this curious species; Forel (1910) surmised that it is a mimic of *Myrmicaria brunnea*. Placement in the *Camponotus reticulatus* group is provisional.

*Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *politae* (Wu & Wang) (**comb. rev.**) was originally described in its own genus, *Dolophra*, later assigned to *Camponotus* (Bolton 1995),

then to *Camponotus* subgenus *Colobopsis* (Bolton 2003), and finally to *Colobopsis* (Ward et al. 2016). The illustration of the worker head in the original publication (Wu and Wang 1994: 36) indicates that this is a *Camponotus* species, given the closely approximated antennal insertions (ASM/HW ~0.23) and broad clypeus. Moreover, the elongate nodiform petiole and the shape of the propodeum,



**Figure 5.** *Camponotus yogi*, full-face dorsal views of head (A, B, D) and lateral view of body (C); scale bars = 0.5 mm. **A:** Minor worker (CASENT0249398). **B, C:** Major worker (CASENT0249399). **D:** Dealate queen (CASENT0923092). Images from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographers Will Ericson (A–C), and Wade Lee (D).

with concave dorsal and declivitous faces, place it close to *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *bellus* and related species, in the *Ca. reticulatus* group. Consequently, *Dolophra* again becomes a junior synonym of *Camponotus* (**syn. rev.**).

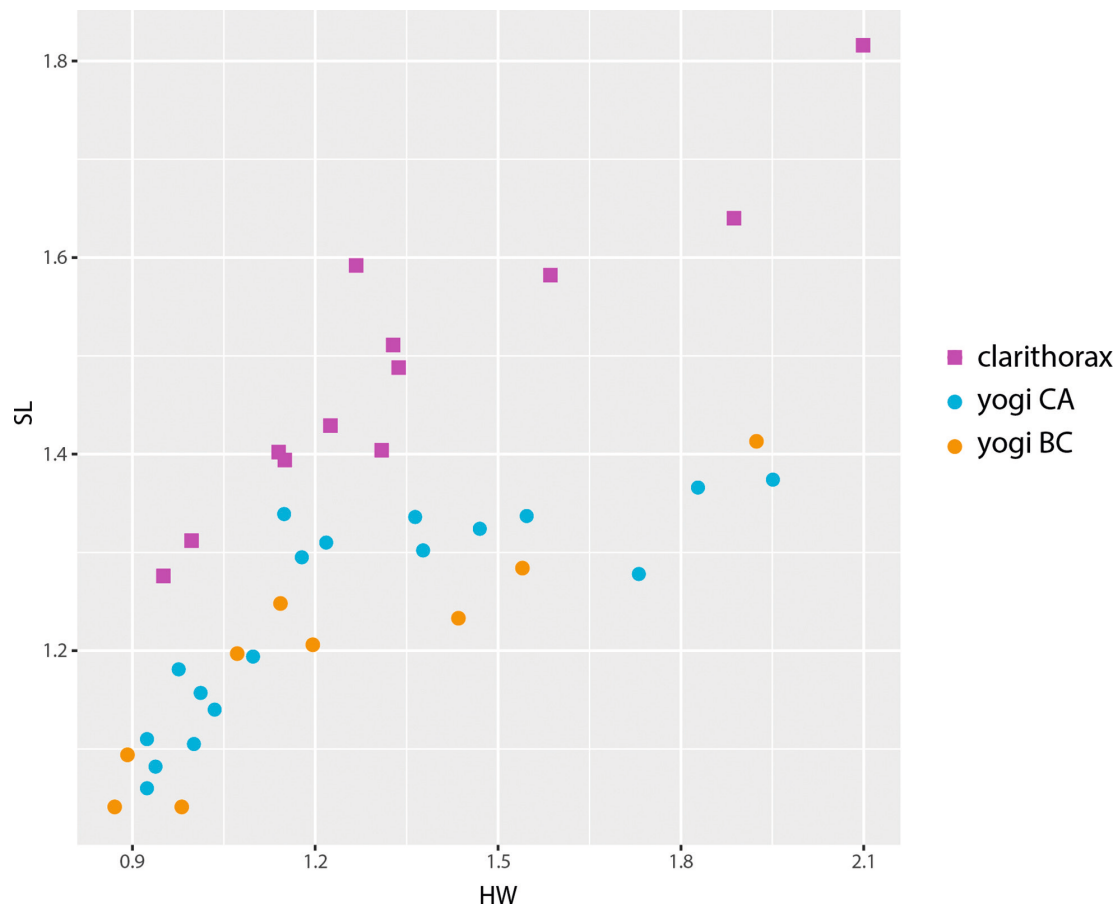
Similarly, the syntype workers of *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *aurelianus* Forel (**comb. rev.**) (Fig. 4C, D) and *Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *trajanus* Forel (**comb. rev.**) (Fig. 4E, F) have a frontoclypeal structure (ASM/HW  $\sim 0.34$  and  $\sim 0.32$ , respectively) and propodeal shape that place them in the *Ca. reticulatus* group, near *Ca. bellus*.

Turning to the Nearctic fauna, there are three taxa recently assigned to *Colobopsis* by Mackay & Mackay (2018) that are members of the genus *Camponotus*, and close to the nominate subgenus. One of these is *Camponotus yogi* Wheeler, long considered to be a bona fide *Camponotus*, which was transferred to *Colobopsis* on the basis of superficial similarity; it is here returned to *Camponotus* (**comb. rev.**). The major workers of *Ca. yogi* have obliquely phragmotic heads (Fig. 5B, C), but these

are quite unlike those of New World *Colobopsis* (Creighton and Snelling 1967). The minor workers are very similar to those of *Camponotus clarithorax*. These smaller workers of *Ca. yogi* (HW 0.98–1.22, WL 1.67–1.95) have the traits typical of *Camponotus* rather than *Colobopsis*, i.e., closely approximated antennal insertions (ASM/HW 0.30–0.34), that are placed anterior to the midlength of the frontal carinae, and a broad clypeus (Fig. 5A). Unlike *Colobopsis*, which has naked pupae, those of *Camponotus yogi* are enclosed in cocoons (Creighton and Snelling 1967) and the larvae lack the praesaepium, or ventral pocket, that is diagnostic of *Colobopsis*. Phylogenomic (UCE) data also support the placement of *Ca. yogi* in *Camponotus*, and show it to be closely related to *Ca. clarithorax* (Ward, unpublished).

The other two taxa placed incorrectly in *Colobopsis* by Mackay & Mackay (2018) were described as new species and are here transferred to *Camponotus*: *Ca. apostemata* (Mackay) (**comb. nov.**) and *Ca. cavibregma* (Mackay)





**Figure 6.** Plot of scape length (SL) against head width (HW) for workers of *Camponotus clarithorax* ( $n = 12$ ) and *Camponotus yogi* ( $n = 27$ ). Samples of *Camponotus yogi* from northern Baja California (BC) fall within the same cluster of points as those from California (CA).

(**comb. nov.**). These two are very similar to *Camponotus yogi* and, we argue below, are justifiably treated as junior synonyms of that species. All three names are here placed in the nominate subgenus of *Camponotus*.

## 3.2. Species-level taxonomy

### 3.2.1. *Camponotus yogi* Wheeler

Figs. 5, 6

*Camponotus yogi* Wheeler, 1915: 420. Two syntype workers, Point Loma, California, USA (P. Leonard) (AMNH) [examined via image supplied by Christine Lebeau].

*Colobopsis apostemata* Mackay, in Mackay and Mackay, 2018: 100. Holotype major worker, Tecate, Baja California, Mexico (LACM) [not examined]. **Syn. nov.**

*Colobopsis cavibregma* Mackay, in Mackay and Mackay, 2018: 107. Holotype dealate queen, Skinner Reservoir, Riverside Co., California, USA (T. Prentice) (LACM) [not examined]. **Syn. nov.**

*Camponotus (Colobopsis) yogi* Wheeler; Wheeler, 1917: 562. Placement in *Camponotus (Colobopsis)*.

*Camponotus (Myrmaphaenus) yogi* Wheeler; Emery, 1925: 156. Placement in *Camponotus (Myrmaphaenus)*.

*Camponotus (Myrmaphaenus) yogi* Wheeler; Creighton and Snelling, 1967. Taxonomic and biological notes.

*Colobopsis yogi* (Wheeler); Mackay and Mackay, 2018: 215. Combination in *Colobopsis*.

*Camponotus yogi* Wheeler; present study. Combination in *Camponotus (comb. rev., see above)*.

*Camponotus apostemata* (Mackay); present study. Combination in *Camponotus (comb. nov., see above)*.

*Camponotus cavibregma* (Mackay); present study. Combination in *Camponotus (comb. nov., see above)*.

**1.** Based on the original description and figures (Mackay and Mackay 2018: 111–113), the holotype of *Camponotus cavibregma* appears to be simply a queen of *Ca. yogi*. Its supposedly distinctive feature—a concave genal area, free of the short spatulate hairs that are common on surrounding anterior regions of the head—is observed also in queens of *Ca. yogi* (Fig. 5D). The description and illustrations of the paratype minor worker of *Ca. cavibregma* (Mackay and Mackay 2018: 109–111) similarly place it within the range of variation exhibited by minor workers of *Ca. yogi*.

*Camponotus apostemata*, described from a series of workers collected in northern Baja California (specimens from this series examined in LACM), is scarcely distinguishable from *Camponotus yogi*, and is here treated as part of the geographical variation of the latter species. The head of the major worker is a bit more strongly truncate than in populations farther north, but no consistent

differences are seen in the minor workers. Johnson & Ward (2002) referred to these and other samples of *Ca. yogi* from Baja California as *Camponotus* sp. cf. *yogi*.

*Camponotus yogi* is closely related to *Ca. clarithorax* Creighton. The major worker of the latter species lacks a pitted, obliquely truncate head, but is otherwise structurally similar. The two species can be distinguished by differences in scape and leg length, with *Ca. yogi* having consistently shorter appendages than *Ca. clarithorax* (Fig. 6), although very small workers may be difficult to distinguish. The median clypeal notch or concavity is better developed, on average, in *Ca. clarithorax* workers than in those of *Ca. yogi*, a feature which led to the placement of *Ca. clarithorax* in the subgenus *Myrmentoma*, but neither species belongs in that subgenus. They are here treated as *Camponotus* (*Camponotus*) since genetic data indicate a fairly close relationship to other species in that subgenus (Wernegreen et al. 2009; Ward, unpublished). In addition to *Ca. clarithorax* and *Ca. yogi*, there are two other species in the *Ca. yogi* group: *Ca. keiferi* Wheeler, endemic to Isla Guadalupe, Mexico (and already placed in the nominate subgenus), and an undescribed species from the California Channel Islands (Ward, unpublished).

*Camponotus yogi* is endemic to California and northern Baja California, where it occurs in coastal sage scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, and oak-juniper woodland. Nests are located in dead branches or stumps of various plants, always near the ground and often extending into live plant tissue. Creighton & Snelling (1967) reported this species nesting in live beetle-bored stems of *Ericameria pinifolia*, and tending pseudococcids in the stems.

### 3.2.2. *Camponotus laevigatus* (F. Smith)

Fig. 7A–D

*Formica laevigata* F. Smith, 1858: 55. Lectotype worker, California, United States (BMNH) [examined via image on AntWeb: CASENT0903603]

*Camponotus laevigatus* (F. Smith); Roger, 1863: 5. Combination in *Camponotus*.

*Camponotus* (*Camponotus*) *laevigatus* (F. Smith); Forel, 1914: 266. Placement in *Camponotus* (*Camponotus*).

*Camponotus* (*Camponotus*) *laevigatus* (F. Smith); Mackay, 2019: 246. Lectotype worker designated.

*Camponotus* (*Camponotus*) *quercicola* M. R. Smith, 1954: 211. Holotype worker, Tanbark Flat, Los Angeles County, California (T. C. Lawrence) (USNM) [examined]. **Syn. nov.**

*Camponotus quercicola* M. R. Smith; Gadau et al., 1999. Description of male and queen. Biology and distribution.

1. Mackay (2019) discovered that the types of this species in BMNH—a syntype dealate queen and syntype major worker, the latter designated by him as lectotype—do not correspond to the species that has come to be known in the literature as *Camponotus laevigatus*. That species, given the new name *Ca. laevissimus* Mackay, is easily recognized by its shiny, iridescent blue-black integument and abundant and bright white standing pilosity on most of the body, including the scapes and tibiae

(Fig. 7E, F). The real *Camponotus laevigatus* is a shiny black species, with relatively sparse standing pilosity, inconspicuous pubescence, slender scape base, and ecarinate clypeus. Examination of the lectotype image (Fig. 7A, B) shows that *Camponotus laevigatus* is conspecific with *Ca. quercicola*, a widespread California species that nests in the trunks and branches of oak trees (Gadau et al. 1999) (Fig. 7C, D). Mackay (2019) claimed that *Ca. laevigatus* differs from *Ca. quercicola* in having reduced pilosity on the head, but the lectotype is an old specimen in which the hairs are evidently abraded. Note the asymmetry in presence of hairs on the two sides of the head in the AntWeb image (e.g., short setae present on the left malar region but not on the right side) (Fig. 7A). Moreover, the amount of standing pilosity shows considerable variation in workers of *Ca. quercicola*, including setation on the malar region (Smith 1954; Gadau et al. 1999). We have examined a large series of *Camponotus quercicola* from throughout California, and we find that the type of *Ca. laevigatus* falls easily within the range of variation exhibited by this species. Mackay (2019: 321) also stated that the male and queen of *Ca. quercicola* (now *Ca. laevigatus*) are unknown, but this is incorrect: they were described and illustrated by Gadau et al. (1999) and compared with related species.

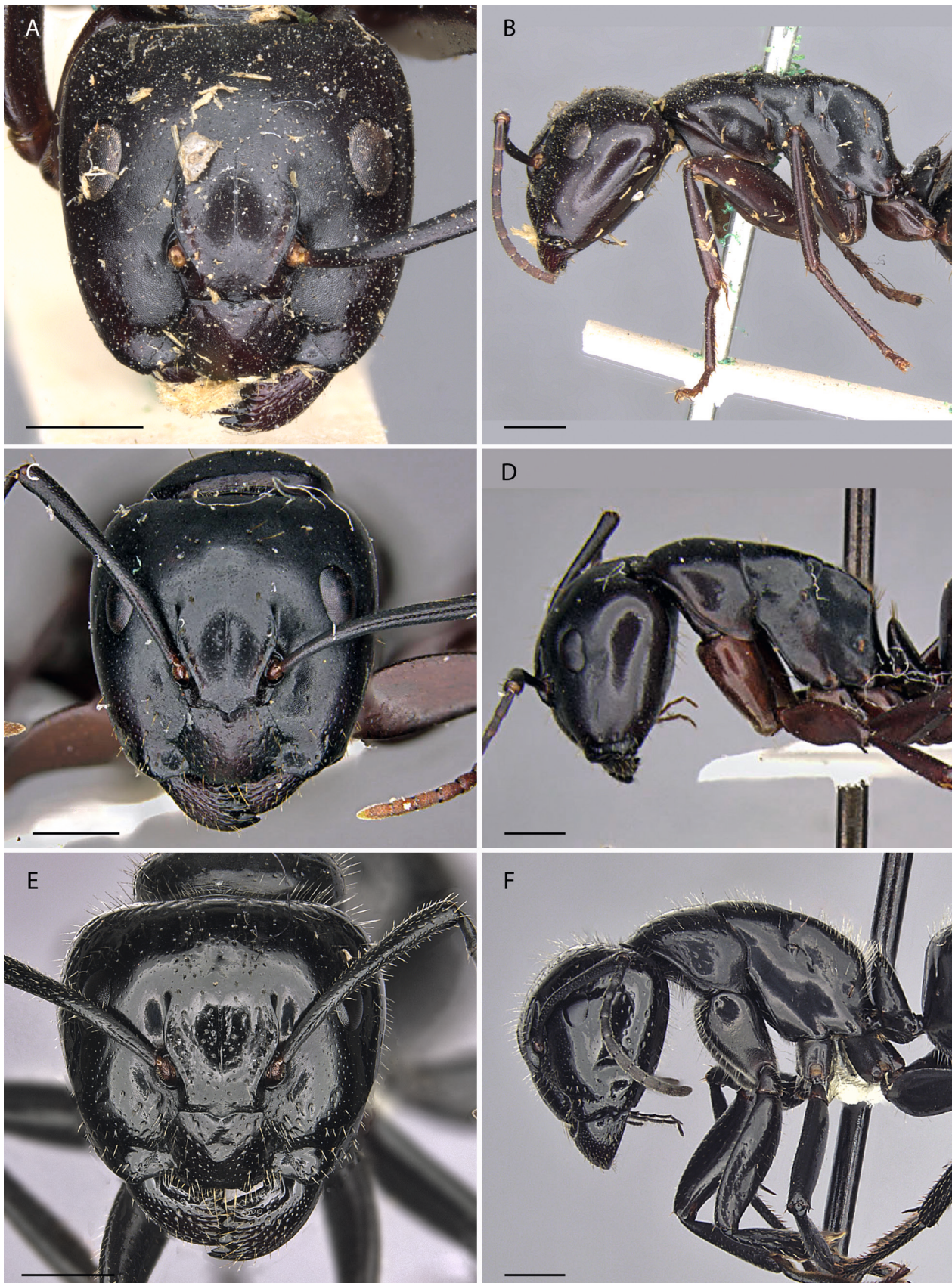
### 3.2.3. *Camponotus adustus* Viehmeyer stat. n.

Fig. 8A, B

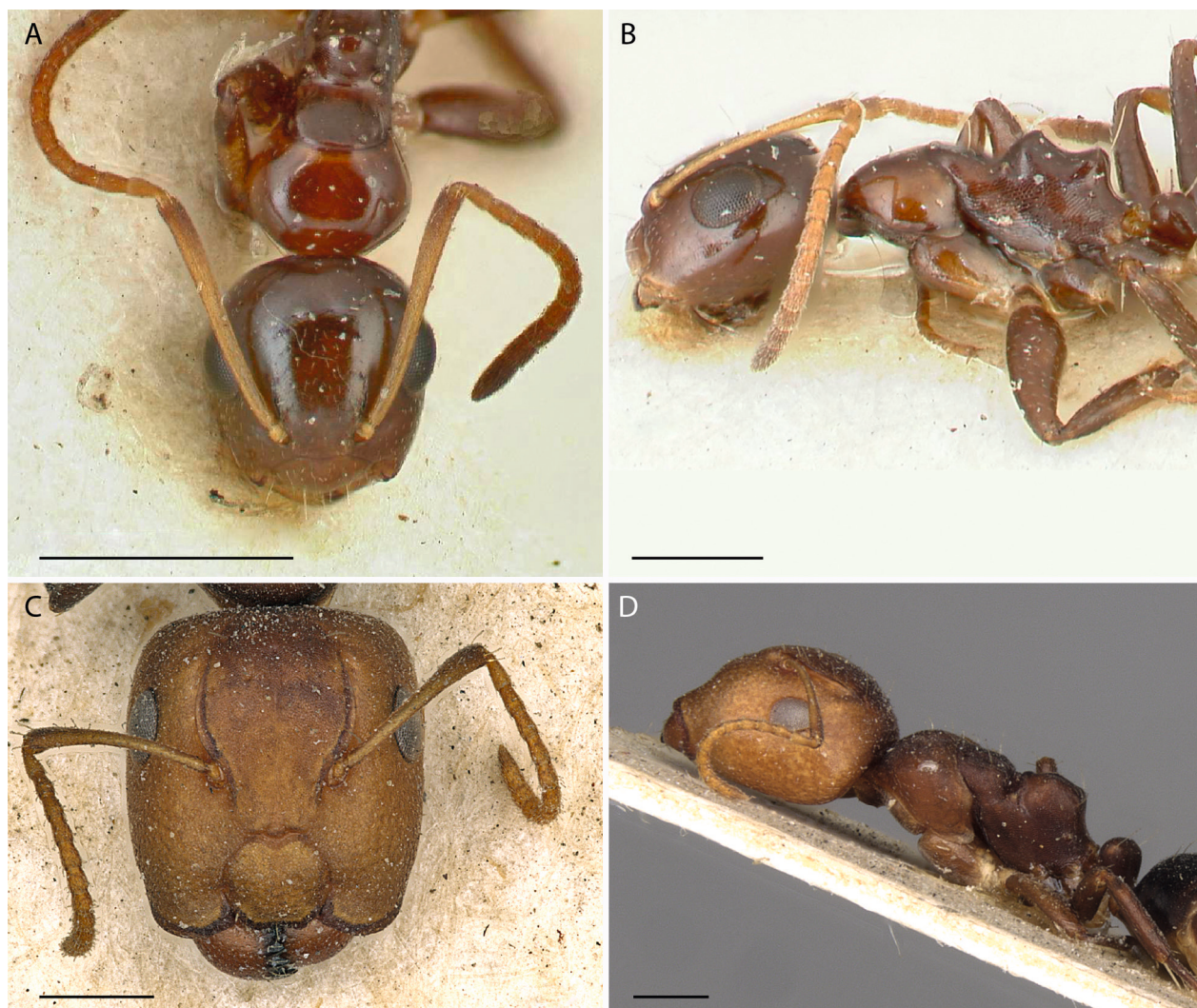
*Camponotus* (*Myrmamblys*) *bellus* subsp. *adustus* Viehmeyer, 1916: 159. Holotype worker (by monotypy), Singapore (H. Overbeck) (ZMHB) [examined via image on AntWeb: FOCOL2281].

1. *Ca. adustus* was described by Viehmeyer (1916) as a subspecies of *Ca. bellus* Forel, but examination of the original descriptions, images of types, and more recent material indicates that these two are distinct species. *Camponotus bellus* (syntype major worker, Amboina, Indonesia (Biró) [MHNG]; examined via image on AntWeb: CASENT0910513) has a matte integument and more abundant standing pilosity on the mesosoma, including the pronotum (Fig. 8C, D). In contrast, the body of *Ca. adustus* is predominantly shiny and standing pilosity is sparse on the mesosoma, being restricted to a single pair of long setae on the mesonotum and one pair at the junction of the dorsal and declivitous faces of the propodeum (Fig. 8A, B). Moreover, the two taxa have been recorded co-occurring in Singapore and remaining distinct (Viehmeyer 1916).

In addition to the foregoing pilosity characteristics, the minor worker of *Ca. adustus* has striking anterior and posterior protuberances on the dorsal face of the propodeum, and both the dorsal and declivitous faces are notably concave in lateral view (Fig. 8B). Under this general morphotype, however, there is a bewildering diversity of color forms whose taxonomic status is unclear. One of these, *Ca. leucodiscus* Wheeler, has also been treated as a subspecies of *Ca. bellus*, and is here raised to species



**Figure 7.** *Camponotus* workers, full-face (dorsal) views of head (A, C, E) and lateral views of body (B, D, F); scale bars = 1.0 mm. A, B: *Camponotus laevigatus*, lectotype (CASENT0903603). C, D: *Camponotus quercicola*, paratype (MCZ-ENT00029334), image from MCZbase (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, copyright President and Fellows of Harvard College). E, F: *Camponotus laevissimus* (CASENT0280010). Images A, B, E, F from AntWeb ([www.antweb.org](http://www.antweb.org)); photographer Will Ericson.



**Figure 8.** *Camponotus* workers, full-face (dorsal) views of head (A, C) and lateral views of body (D, E); scale bars 0.5 mm. **A, B:** *Camponotus adustus*, holotype worker (FOCOL2281); scale bars = 0.5 mm. **C, D:** *Camponotus bellus*, syntype major worker (CASENT0910513). Images from AntWeb (www.antweb.org); photographers Christiana Klingenberg (A, B), and Zach (Ziv) Lieberman (C, D).

(below), but its relationship to *Ca. adustus* remains to be clarified. The New Guinea species *Camponotus weismanni* Forel (syntype worker, Bismarck Archipelago; examined via image on AntWeb: FOCOL2297) might be a senior synonym of *Ca. adustus*, but the worker propodeum has less well-developed protuberances and a correspondingly less concave dorsal surface in profile.

### 3.2.4. *Camponotus leucodiscus* Wheeler stat. rev.

Fig. 9

*Camponotus (Colobopsis) leucodiscus* Wheeler, 1919: 117. Holotype dealate queen (by monotypy), British North Borneo (E. B. Kershaw) (MCZC) [examined via image on MCZbase: MCZ-ENT00021564]

*Camponotus (Colobopsis) leucodiscus*; Wheeler, 1919: 118. Description of worker, soldier.

*Camponotus (Myrmamblyus) bellus leucodiscus*; Emery, 1925: 138. Placement in *Camponotus (Myrmamblyus)* and subspecies of *Ca. bellus*.

1. Workers associated with *Ca. leucodiscus* (i.e., matching the striking black and white color pattern on the gaster of the holotype queen) lack the matte integument and pilosity of *Ca. bellus*, and are instead shiny and with sparse pilosity, as described above for *Ca. adustus*. They apparently differ from workers of *Ca. adustus* by the longer, lower petiole and by the color pattern on the gaster. Both taxa that are here elevated to species are part of a larger assemblage of ants in the *Ca. reticulatus* group that need comprehensive taxonomic study.

## 3.3. Male characters of *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis*

### 3.3.1. Identification of male *Camponotini*

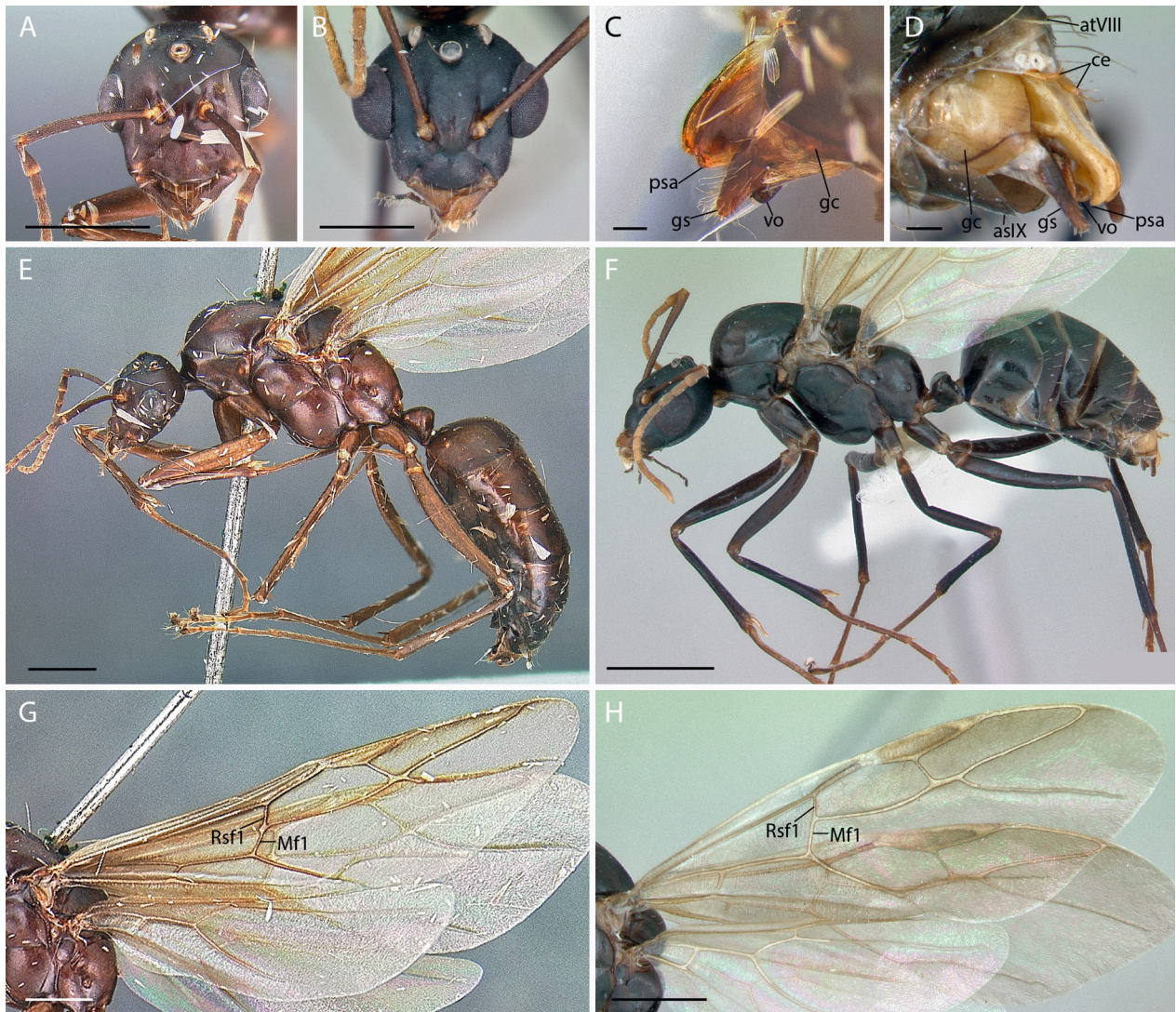
**Diagnosis.** *Camponotini* are well-defined morphologically based on the female castes (Bolton 2003). Males are identifiable as Formicinae by their long scapes, the strongly oblique gonocoxal-gonostylar articulation, ab-



**Figure 9.** *Camponotus leucodiscus*, lateral view of body; scale bar for A = 1.0 mm, no scale available for B. **A:** Holotype dealate queen (MCZ-ENT00021564), image from MCZbase (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, copyright President and Fellows of Harvard College). **B:** worker, image from AntWiki (<https://www.antwiki.org/wiki/File:Camponotus-bellus-leucodisc.jpg> by Gary Alpert; used with Creative Commons CC 4.0).

sence of constriction between the third and fourth abdominal segments, and failure of the clypeus to extend between the antennal toruli, among other features (see subfamily key in Boudinot 2015). Given the available sample, male *Camponotini* are distinguishable from those of other formicine tribes by the following combination of traits (Fig. 10): (1) antennal toruli posteriorly-situated (i.e., anterior margins of torular rims distant from posterior clypeal margin); (2) antennae 13-merous; (3) arolia grossly enlarged; (4) gonostyli usually distinctly digitate (finger-like in shape and proportions); (5) waist simple, i.e., (5a) petiolar node usually vertical (except, e.g., *Ca. (Myrmopytia) longicollis*, which lacks a node altogether), (5b) petiole is not elongate posteriorly (e.g., anterior and posterior faces of node subequal in length), (5c) ter-

gosternal articulation of abdominal segment III (AIII) is unfused, (5d) AIII articulation not raised dorsally above helcium, and (5e) the anterior surface of abdominal tergum III is convex, without a median longitudinal groove for reception of the petiole when “gaster” flexed anteriorly; (6) in most species, the first free abscissae of the radial sector and media veins (Rs+M and M+Cu<sub>1</sub>) are characteristically aligned, forming a more-or-less straight line, although they may be kinked at the juncture of Rs+M, or have some other curvature; in rare cases, e.g., *Colobopsis pylora* (alate gyne examined), the abscissae meet at a distinct angle; (7) fore wing crossvein 1m-cu is usually absent (although loss within the group may have occurred in parallel, see Remarks below); and (8) head with distinct shape, resembling an inverted pear in full-face



**Figure 10.** Habitus of male *Colobopsis* and *Camponotus*; (A, B) heads in full-face (dorsal) view; (C, D) genitalia in dorsolateral oblique view; (E, F) bodies in profile view; (G, H) wings in ventral view; scale bars: A, B = 0.5 mm, C, D = 0.1 mm, E–G = 1.0 mm. **A, C, E, G:** *Colobopsis* species indet., from Fijian radiation (CASENT0171201). **B, D, F, H:** *Camponotus planus* (CASENT0173220, image from AntWeb [www.antweb.org], photographed by April Nobile). **Abbreviations:** atVIII = abdominal tergum VIII (metasomal VII), asIX = abdominal sternum IX (metasomal VIII), ce = cerci, gc = gonocoxa, gs = gonostylus, Mf1 = first free medial vein abscissa, psa = penial sclerite ventral apex, Rsf1 = first free radial sector vein abscissa, vo = volsella.

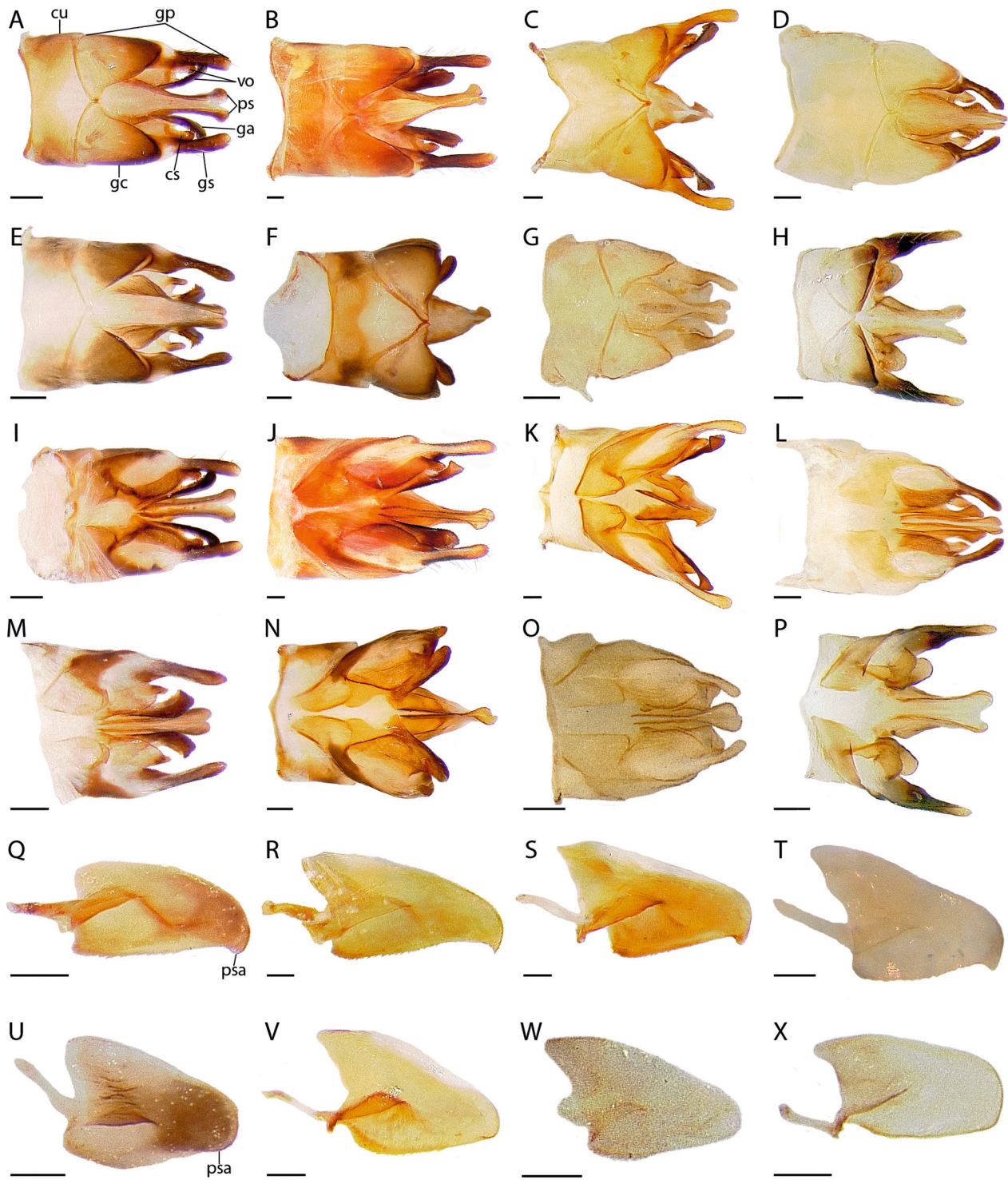
view: (8a) posterior head margin broadly convex, (8b) posterior head margin continuous or nearly so with the strongly bulging compound eyes (rarely the head is posteriorly elongate, e.g., *Camponotus gouldi*), (8c) malar area from the compound eyes to the mandibular insertion in full-face view strongly narrowed lateromedially, usually with parallel to subparallel malar margins that are almost orthogonal to the anterior eye margin.

**Genera included.** *Calomyrmex* Emery, *Camponotus*, *Colobopsis*, *Dinomyrmex* Ashmead, *Echinopla* F. Smith, *Opisthopsis* Dalla Torre, *Overbeckia* Viehmeyer, *Polyrhachis* F. Smith.

**Remarks on distinguishing the genera.** *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* are globally distinguished from one another in the key to males provided below (section 3.3.2), and are the only camponotine genera occurring in the

New World. In the Old World, these genera can be confused with *Calomyrmex*, *Dinomyrmex*, *Echinopla*, *Opisthopsis*, *Overbeckia*, or *Polyrhachis*, for which differentiating features are noted below. In general, *Colobopsis* is the only genus among these with antennal toruli situated at midlength of the frontal carinae, although some male *Camponotus* can be hard to evaluate due to poor development of the carinae. Further scrutiny of this condition is necessary.

*Dinomyrmex* males are readily identified by the following combination of states: (1) body massive, ~2 cm long; (2) head oddly shaped, with concave malar regions in full-face view; (3) propodeal spiracles long, slit-shaped; (4) petiolar node broadly wedge-shaped in profile view; (5) gonapophyses lateromedially flattened and weakly lobate; (6) golden pubescence present on pronotum; and (7) numerous long, reddish macrosetae present on pronotum, lateral mesonotum, and propodeum.



**Figure 11.** Comparison of male genitalia, with *Camponotus* (A–D, I–L, Q–T) and *Colobopsis* (E–H, M–P, U–X) in alternate rows, scale bars = 0.1 mm. A–H, genital capsules dorsal view; I–P, genital capsules ventral view; Q–X, penial sclerites lateral view. A, I, Q, *Camponotus* (*Mayria*) species indet. (CASENT0844695). B, J, R, *Camponotus* (*Tanaemyrmex*) *vicinus* (CASENT0844696). C, K, S, *Camponotus* (*Myrmostenus*) *mirabilis* (CASENT0844697). D, L, T, *Camponotus* (*Myrmotrema*) *bottegoi* (CASENT0844698). E, M, U, *Colobopsis* *gasseri* (CASENT0844699). F, N, V, *Colobopsis* *cylindrica* group, species indet. (CASENT0844700). G, O, W, *Colobopsis* *macrocephala* (CASENT0844701). H, P, X, *Colobopsis* *moeschi lygaea* (CASENT0844702). *Note:* Q, R, T–W right penial sclerites, but images flipped for figure; penial apodeme of W broken during dissection. **Abbreviations:** cu = cupula, cs = cuspsis, ga = gonapophysis, gc = gonocoxa, gp = gonopod, gs = gonostylus, ps = penial sclerite, psa = penial sclerite ventral apex.

*Polyrhachis* is easily distinguished. Based on examination of a sample of males from nine of the 13 current valid *Polyrhachis* subgenera (*Campomyrma* Wheeler,

*Chariomyrma* Forel, *Cyrtomyrma* Forel, *Hagiomyrma* Wheeler, *Hemioptica* Roger, *Myrma* Billberg, *Myrmatopa* Forel, *Myrmhopla* Forel, *Polyrhachis*), the following

differential characters were observed for the genus: (1) head posteriorly truncate in posterior/posterodorsal view, with the posteromedian margin carinate; (2) frontal carinae usually robust, especially broad dorsoventrally dorsal to medial torular arch as seen in lateral view (orientation assuming prognathy), and often strong and well-marked; (3) third abdominal tergum often  $> 1/3$  the total length of the gaster; and (4) helcial tergite elongate, with a very shallow notch or even an anteromedian lobe (e.g., in *Polyrhachis sensu stricto*), although the medial notch may be extremely long and narrow, reaching the helcial base, as in some *Myrmatopa*. None of the helcial states observed in *Polyrhachis* have been seen in *Camponotus*. While the genitalia and ninth abdominal sternum of *Camponotus* tend to be rather uniform, those of *Polyrhachis* vary considerably from species to species and subgenus to subgenus, in ways which are distinct from *Camponotus* and which deserve special attention.

The boundaries of *Calomyrmex*, *Echinopla*, *Opisthopsis*, and *Overbeckia* remain largely unexplored due to limited sampling. At least one species of *Opisthopsis* and one of *Calomyrmex* (in UCDC), and at least *Colobopsis vitrea* (male unknown) have the forewing crossvein 1m-cu enclosing and forming a discal cell. A discal cell is absent in *Echinopla*, *Camponotus* (including the recently demoted subgenus *Phasmomyrmex*), most *Colobopsis*, *Overbeckia*, and *Polyrhachis*. *Opisthopsis* (when 1m-cu present) and *Calomyrmex* (when 1m-cu present) may be distin-

guished from one another by the shape of the discal cell, being isosceles-shaped in *Opisthopsis* and subrectangular in *Calomyrmex*; however, this should be validated with a broader taxonomic sample. The examined male of *Opisthopsis*, that of *O. haddoni* (MHNG), was observed to have an exceptionally sharp and long ventroapical point of the penial sclerite; this species also has small ocelli, a very shallow and short posterior head margin posterad the compound eyes, and a large and convex anterior clypeal lobe. Among *Echinopla*, only *E. striata* was available for examination; the male of this species lacks 1m-cu, has a short third abdominal tergum, has a posteriorly-truncate head as in *Polyrhachis*, and is extremely hairy with both standing pilosity and pubescence. The male of *Overbeckia* has short scapes which are shorter than the head length, very close-set antennal toruli (separated by slightly more than one torular diameter), a small clypeus without an anterior lobe, and a long head posterior to the compound eyes.

### 3.3.2. Diagnostic key for *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* males

*Note:* Characters 3 and 4 of the key below are the most reliable, although the latter is complex and, based on experience, requires examination at multiple angles to fully comprehend.

1. *Body features.* (1) The mesonotum usually lacks macrosetae except for one or two pairs on mesoscutellum (global), infrequently with more (some Indomalayan species). (2) The propodeal spiracle is small, circular, pinprick-like, with certain species in Fiji being the only known exceptions. – *Genital features.* (3) The penial sclerite apex is rounded in lateral view, without an apicoventral tooth (Figs. 10C, 11U–X, psa). (4) Except for the *cylindrica* species group (Fig. 11N), the gonapophysis (= digitus) is scoop-shaped in anteroventral view, with the apex seeming “folded” laterally (Fig. 11M, O, P); the ventral margin of gonapophysis is sharply carinate, and the carina extends distally and curves laterodorsally just basal to gonapophyseal apex, dividing the apical portion of the gonapophysis into distinct proximal and distal faces; the apicolateral extension of the carina is sharply-defined. (5) The cuspis is fine, usually forming a transverse lobe (Fig. 11N–P), rarely digitate in ventral view (Fig. 11M). ..... ***Camponotus***
- 1’ *Body features.* (1) The mesonotum usually bears several macrosetae (global), rarely with few (e.g., *Ca. (Pseudocolobopsis)* may have 1 seta pair). (2) The propodeal spiracle is variable in size and shape, from small and circular to large and slit-shaped. – *Genital features.* (3) The penial sclerite apex is hooked in lateral view, with a distinct apicoventral tooth (Figs. 10D, 11Q–T, psa) which may or may not be sharply pointed (the tooth may be poorly developed, as in *Ca. (Dendromyrmex) nitidior*, which overlaps with *Colobopsis* in Central America but is distinctive in shape and pilosity). (4) The form of the gonapophysis (= digitus) is variable, but always robust and club- or mace-shaped (Fig. 11I–L); when a sharp ventral carina is present, the carina continues apicolaterally as an obviously rounded ridge or tumosity, and does not extend to the apex of the digitus. (5) The cuspis is robust, usually digitiform in ventral view (Fig. 11I–L). ..... ***Camponotus***

## 4. Discussion and conclusion

The two ant genera that are the subject of this study are ecologically prominent, species-rich, and widely distributed, collectively occupying much of the planet’s terrestrial landscapes (Emery 1925, Bolton 1995, Fisher 2009). They are especially diverse in tropical regions, and undoubtedly have significant roles as predators, scavengers,

and consumers of honeydew. Like other members of the tribe Camponotini, species of *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* harbor obligate, vertically inherited endosymbionts (*Blochmannia*) that are believed to provide essential nutritional benefits to their ant hosts (Feldhaar et al. 2007, Wernegreen et al. 2009, Rafiqi et al. 2020).

Concomitant with the colonization of so many habitats, species of *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* have undergone extensive morphological diversification. Certain



**Table 1.** Summary of taxonomic changes in this paper. This includes novel subgenus placements; these are not new or revived combinations as defined by the ICZN.

Taxon	Change	Notes
<i>Colobopsis moeschi</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Colobopsis moeschi lygaea</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Colobopsis nutans</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Colobopsis nutans cleliae</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Colobopsis reichenspergeri</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Camponotus horrens</i>	<b>comb. rev.</b>	Returned to <i>Camponotus</i> , from <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus politae</i>	<b>comb. rev.</b>	Returned to <i>Camponotus</i> , from <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus aurelianus</i>	<b>comb. rev.</b>	Returned to <i>Camponotus</i> , from <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus trajanus</i>	<b>comb. rev.</b>	Returned to <i>Camponotus</i> , from <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus apostemata</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus cavibregma</i>	<b>comb. nov.</b>	Previously in <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Camponotus yogi</i>	<b>comb. rev.</b>	Returned to <i>Camponotus</i> , from <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Myrmotennus</i>	<b>syn. nov.</b>	Junior synonym of <i>Colobopsis</i>
<i>Dolophra</i>	<b>syn. rev.</b>	Junior synonym of <i>Camponotus</i>
<i>Camponotus apostemata</i>	<b>syn. nov.</b>	Junior synonym of <i>Camponotus yogi</i>
<i>Camponotus cavibregma</i>	<b>syn. nov.</b>	Junior synonym of <i>Camponotus yogi</i>
<i>Camponotus quercicola</i>	<b>syn. nov.</b>	Junior synonym of <i>Camponotus laevigatus</i>
<i>Camponotus adustus</i>	<b>stat. nov.</b>	Previously subspecies of <i>Camponotus bellus</i>
<i>Camponotus leucodiscus</i>	<b>stat. rev.</b>	Species status restored
<i>Camponotus hypoclineoides</i>	subgenus	Restored to <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Karavaievia</i> )
<i>Camponotus impressilabris</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Orthonotomyrmex</i> )
<i>Camponotus horrens</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Myrmamblys</i> )
<i>Camponotus politae</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Myrmamblys</i> )
<i>Camponotus aurelianus</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Myrmamblys</i> )
<i>Camponotus trajanus</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Myrmamblys</i> )
<i>Camponotus apostemata</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Camponotus</i> )
<i>Camponotus cavibregma</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Camponotus</i> )
<i>Camponotus yogi</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Camponotus</i> )
<i>Camponotus clarithorax</i>	subgenus	Placed in <i>Camponotus</i> ( <i>Camponotus</i> )

arboreal taxa have come to occupy similar morphospace, especially with respect to the cranial architecture of the major worker. Phragmotic heads, serving to block the entrances of twig nests, have evolved—to varying degrees—in multiple lineages of both *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis* (Fig. 1). Such convergent evolution delights the evolutionist, but can prove frustrating to the taxonomist. Here we have examined several problematic taxa that were given insufficient attention in an earlier treatment (Ward et al. 2016), and reevaluated their taxonomic placement. We depend largely on the morphological distinctions adduced in the previous study (Ward et al. 2016) because they were supported by complementary evidence from larva and pupal characters, and corroborated by robust phylogenetic inference from phylogenomic data (Blaimer et al. 2015).

Our investigations and taxonomic changes (summarized in Table 1) have refined our understanding of these ants, revealing for example that one putative subgenus of *Camponotus*, *Myrmotennus*, is in fact a subgroup of *Colobopsis*. Our study highlights the need for greater taxonomic attention to the *Camponotus reticulatus* group (in subgenus *Myrmamblys*), several species of which had

been placed incorrectly in *Colobopsis*. We were also able to demonstrate that several “*Colobopsis*” taxa recognized in a recent revision of the New World species of this genus belong to the genus *Camponotus*. With these reassignments we feel that the composition of the two genera has largely stabilized, setting the stage for more thorough comparative analyses of trait evolution in these ants.

In contrast to the scarcity (and potential fickleness) of diagnostic features in the worker caste, our investigation has revealed several promising features of male morphology—specifically male genitalia—that serve to distinguish *Camponotus* and *Colobopsis*. Although males are understudied in Formicidae, they yield consistent and surprising distinguishing features among subfamilies, genera, and species groups (e.g., Ward 1999, Ward and Downie 2005, Boudinot 2015, Barden et al. 2017). Males may be less prone to homoplasy than workers and queens because they are not subject to the same ecological pressures due to their hermitic lifestyles. Moreover, the male genitalia of ants are complex copulatory machines which display considerable functional morphological variation. In some cases, the male genitalia appear to have undergone sexually-selected runaway evolution as observed

in lineages such as the army ants (Old and New World), spider ants (*Leptomyrmex*), castrator ants (*Diacamma*), fungus-growing ants (*Atta* genus group), and legionary vampire ants (Leptanillinae). Among the examined camponotines, *Colobopsis* is uniquely defined by the synapomorphic loss of the apicoventral tooth of the penial sclerite, which implies concomitant behavioral derivation during copulation. We hope that the dissections figured in the present work encourage future studies of camponotine genitalia. With reciprocal illumination from burgeoning phylogenomic studies, the exploration of morphological variation in male, worker, and queen ants will inform our understanding of phylogeny and evolution for many years to come.

## 5. Authors' contributions

Concept and execution: PSW and BEB. Worker taxonomy: PSW. Male morphology: BEB.

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