The Ants of the Genus *Odontomachus* (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Formicidae) in Japan

Masashi Yoshimura1,2, Keiichi Onoyama2,3 and Kazuo Ogata1

1 Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, 812-8581 Japan
E-mail: myoshimura@ant-database.org

2 Course of Biotic Environment, the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Iwate University, Department of Agro-Environmental Science, Graduate School of Obihiro University, Inada-cho, Obihiro, Hokkaido, 080-8555 Japan

3 Nishi 21, Minami 4-11-9, Obihiro, Hokkaido, 080-2471 Japan (present address)

(Received 22 May 2006; Accepted 18 January 2007)

Species of the ant genus *Odontomachus* in Japan are revised. Type comparison and detailed morphological analysis show that *O. kuroiwae* (Matsumura, 1912) is an independent species from *O. monticola* Emery, 1892 and that the former species is distributed in Okinawa Island and Okinoerabu Island in the Ryukyu Islands. Lectotypes of both species are designated. All three castes of *O. kuroiwae* and *O. monticola* are characterized. All castes of *O. kuroiwae*, and the worker and male of *O. monticola*, are illustrated with scanning electron micrographs and light micrographs. The queen of *O. kuroiwae* is described for the first time.

Key Words: Insecta, Hymenoptera, Formicidae, *Odontomachus kuroiwae*, *Odontomachus monticola*, worker, queen, male, taxonomy.

Introduction


The first record of *Odontomachus* in Japan was made by Matsumura (1912) from Okinawa Island in the Ryukyu Islands. He described the material as a new species, *Myrtoteras kuroiwae* Matsumura, 1912, the generic name being a misspelling of *Myrmoteras*, as the author later acknowledged (Matsumura and Uchida 1926). This species was later synonymized under *O. monticola formosae* Forel, 1912 (Teranishi 1940). Up until now this genus has been recorded in the southern part of