DISCOVERY OF THE WINGED FORM OF RETICULITERMES miyatakei MORIMOTO

Takematsu, Yoko

http://hdl.handle.net/2324/2519
DISCOVERY OF THE WINGED FORM OF *Reticulitermes miyatakei* MORIMOTO

YOKO TAKE Matsu
Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, 812 Japan

Abstract

The winged form of *Reticulitermes miyatakei* Morimoto is described for the first time. It is separable from that of *R. speratus* Kolbe by coloration.

*Reticulitermes miyatakei* Morimoto, 1968 was described on the soldier and worker, and its winged form has not been found up to the present. In this paper the winged form of this species is reported and described for the first time. This species is related to *R. speratus* Kolbe, but the winged form of the former is apparently different from the latter in coloration.

Before going further I wish to express my hearty gratitude to Prof. Emeritus Y. Hirashima of Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, for his kind help in many ways. I am also much indebted to Prof. K. Morimoto of Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, who read through the manuscript and gave me many valuable suggestions. My cordial thanks are due to Mr. T. Yasunaga of Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, for his kind advice and encouragement. The specimens used in this paper were collected by Prof. K. Morimoto, to whom I am much indebted.

*Reticulitermes miyatakei* Morimoto

Head: Eyes blackish brown; head brown, whitish yellow anterior to frons; vertex with a narrow medial epicranial suture; frons with a pair of pale spots anteriorly; labrum whitish yellow, widened at the middle, with anterior part slightly brown; ventral surface whitish yellow; gena and posterior part of gula brownish. Antennae brown, 17-segmented. Mandibles yellow, with inner edge brown; right mandible 4-toothed; apical tooth and 1st marginal tooth pointed; subsidiary tooth very small; 2nd marginal tooth large, with long basal edge; molar plate flat, bearing hairs on basal edge; left mandible also possessing 4 teeth; the first three acute, almost equal in size; 3rd marginal tooth slightly longer than 2nd; molar plate apparently large, hairless, produced as a pointed process at the middle, with basal edge serrate.

Thorax: Pronotum brown, with a pair of small pale spots and a large pale marking behind the anterior margin, narrower than head, anterior margin much broader than posterior margin, with
remarkable median suture, bearing dense hairs. Mesonotum and metanotum brown, with median suture. Pleura and sterna whitish yellow; episternum, epimerum and merum pale brown anteriorly. Wings pale brown, with dark veins. Legs entirely yellow; coxae tinged with brown.

Abdomen: Brown, wholly covered with hairs.

Measurements: See Table 1.


Distribution: Japan (Amami-Oshima Is., Tokunoshima Is.)

Remarks. The winged form of this species is separable from that of R. speratus Kolbe by the pronotum brown and the femora yellow, in addition to being significantly paler in coloration. The winged forms used in this paper swarmed in April, 1989 from a colony which had been reared under artificial condition.

References


Fig. 1. Head and thorax of *R. miyakei*.—A, Head in dorsal view; B, ditto in left lateral view; C, right mandible; D, left mandible; E, pronotum; F, mesonotum; G, metanotum. Scales: 0.5 mm.
