

Identification key of the ant genera *Tapinoma* and *Technomyrmex* found in the Netherlands

worker caste

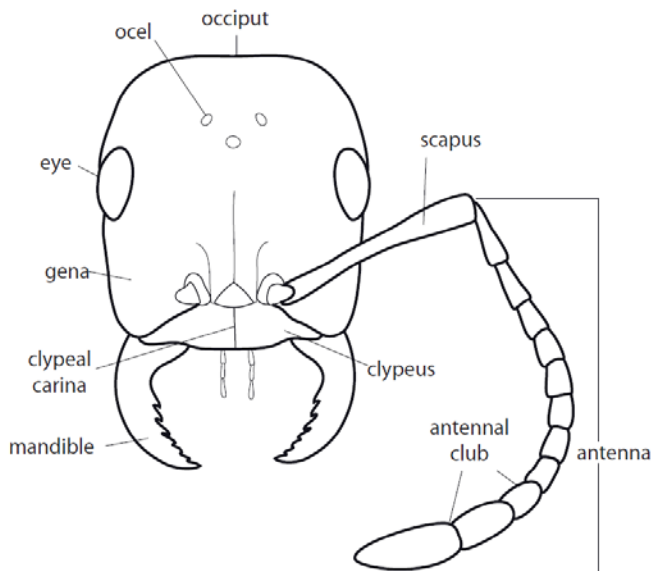
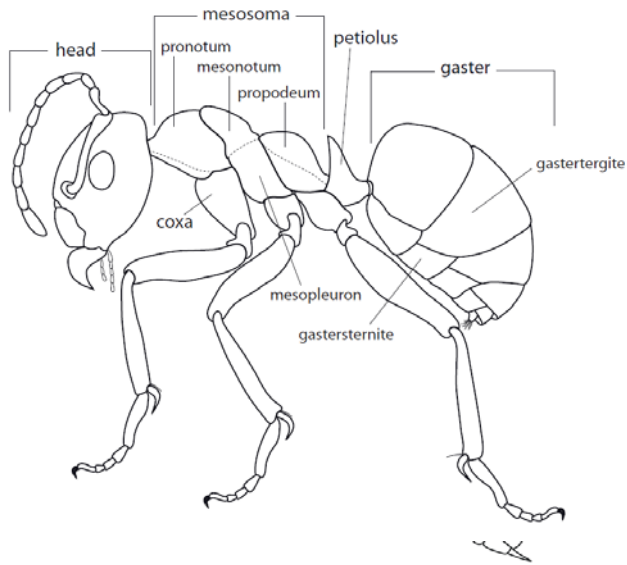
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Attention:
Always (!) watch at least three workers during identification.

All (parts of) images are from www.antweb.org.

Additions and comments are very welcome.

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OI = maximum diameter of eye / HW, x 100

HW = maximum width of the head

SI = scape length / HW, x 100

1a	Mesosoma without setae; 5 gastral tergites visible in dorsal view.	<i>Tapinoma</i> → 2
1b	Mesosoma with (a few) setae (except <i>Technomyrmex kraepelini</i>); 4 gastral tergites visible in dorsal view.	<i>Technomyrmex</i> → 8

<p>2a Gaster, legs and antennae noticeably paler than the head and mesosoma; exotic indoor species.</p>		<p><i>Tapinoma melanocephalum</i></p>
<p>2b Differences in pigmentation between legs and antennae on the one hand and thorax on the other, small.</p>	<p>→ 3</p>	
<p>3a Clypeal excision weak (then with rounded corners) to missing.</p>	<p>→ 4</p>	
<p>3b Clypeal excision remarkable, with sharp corners.</p>	<p>→ 7</p>	
<p>4a Clypeal excision in most workers about half as deep as wide; note: often not clearly visible because of the setae on the edge of the clypeus; outdoor species.</p>		<p><i>Tapinoma subboreale</i></p>
<p>4b Clypeal excision much less deep or absent.</p>	<p>→ 5</p>	
<p>5a Metanotal groove clear; exotic rare indoor species.</p>		<p><i>Tapinoma ramulorum</i></p>

5b Metanotal groove weak to missing.



→ 6

6a Clypeal excision weak, wave-shaped; exotic, rare indoor species.



Tapinoma sessile

6b Without clypeal excision; exotic rare in- and outdoor species.










Tapinoma pygmaeum

7a Clypeal notch about as deep as wide; outdoor species.



Tapinoma erraticum

<p>7b Clypeal notch more than 1,5 x deeper than wide; exotic in- and outdoor pest species: <i>T. darioi</i>, <i>T. magnum</i> and <i>T. ibericum</i>; together also mentioned as: <i>T. nigerricum</i> species complex.</p>	 	<p><i>Tapinoma darioi</i></p> <p><i>Tapinoma ibericum</i></p>
<p>8a Mesosoma without setae; coxae 2 and 3 pale; only known from interceptions.</p>		<p><i>Technomyrmex kraepelini</i></p>
<p>8b Mesosoma with setae.</p>	<p>→ 9</p>	
<p>9a Setae on the frontal side of the head are restricted to the frontal carinae; so they are lacking in the upper part of the head.</p>	<p>→ 10</p>	
<p>9b Setae on the frontal side of the head are not restricted to the frontal carinae; so there are setae in the upper part of the head.</p>	<p>→ 12</p>	
<p>10a The longest setae on the first gastral tergite about 0,5 x maximum diameter of the eye; legs the same colour as head and body except for the yellowish tarsi; only known from interceptions.</p>	 	<p><i>Technomyrmex eliator</i></p>

10b	Length of setae on the first gastral tergite less than the maximum diameter of the eye.	→ 11
11a	<p>Scapus shorter: SI 91-102; eyes smaller: OI: 24-27; tarsi of middle and hind leg white to dull yellowish, paler than the tibiae; pronotum with 2-6 setae. mesonotum with 0-2 setae; only known from interceptions.</p> 	<i>Technomyrmex albipes</i>
11b	<p>Scapus longer: SI 104-115; eyes larger: OI 29-32; tarsi of second and hind leg yellow, paler than the femora and usually also the tibiae; pronotum with 2 setae; mesonotum without setae. Exotic indoor species.</p> 	<i>Technomyrmex vitiensis</i>

12a Tibia and tarsi are always the same colour: yellow to dull brownish yellow; only known from interceptions.



Technomyrmex pallipes

12b Tarsi of middle and hind leg distinctly paler than the tibiae; only known from interceptions.



Technomyrmex difficilis