Terminologie Morphologique utilisée pour identifier les fourmis

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Morphology Hymenoptera

- **Hymenoptera** is one of the largest orders of insects, comprising the sawflies, wasps, bees and ants.
- There are over 130,000 recognized species, with many more remaining to be described.
- According to some the name refers to the <u>heavy wings</u> of the insects, and is derived from the Ancient Greek υμήν (hymen): <u>membrane</u> and πτερόν (pteron): <u>wing</u>.

Morphology Hymenoptera WINGS

- Hymenoptera usually have <u>two pairs of wings</u>. Their wings have relatively <u>few veins</u> compared with many other insects, especially in the smaller species.
- The hindwings are connected to the forewings (when flying) by a series of <u>hooks called hamuli</u>.





Morphology Hymenoptera mouthparts

- Their mouthparts are adapted for chewing, with <u>well-developed mandibles</u> (wasps).
- Many species have further developed the mouthparts into a lengthy <u>proboscis</u>, with which they can drink liquids, such as nectar (bees).





Morphology Hymenoptera

 Insects do not have lungs; oxygen and other gases like carbon dioxide pass through their exoskeleton through tiny valves called spiracles.

Mesosoma = alitrunk (Odontomachus sp.)



- Ants are distinct in their morphology from other insects
 - 1) elbowed antennae,
 - 2) metapleural glands, an exocrine gland
- 3) a strong constriction of their second abdominal segment into a node-like petiole (thirds abd segm postpetiole).



ANTS : head; mesosoma; metasoma (INSECTS head, thorax, abdomen) PETIOLUS can be formed by one or two nodes (the second alone, or the second and third abdominal segments).









Ant's head contains many sensory organs. Like most insects, ants have <u>compound</u> <u>eyes</u> made from numerous tiny lenses attached together.

 Ants' eyes are good for <u>acute</u>
 <u>movement</u>
 <u>detection</u> but do om
 not give a high
 resolution.

Outer border of the antennal scrobe -(= Preocular carina)

Ommatidium = Facet



Eye (Trachymyrmex sp.)



 They also have three small <u>ocelli</u> (simple eyes) on the top of the head that <u>detect light levels and</u> <u>polarization</u>.





Morfología Formicidae

Head (Crematogaster sp.)







• Mandible



LEGS

- All six legs are attached to the mesosoma.
- A hooked claw at the end of each leg helps ants to climb and hang onto surfaces.



WINGS

 Most queens and male ants have wings; queens shed the wings <u>after the nuptial flight</u>, leaving visible stubs, a distinguishing feature of queens.



 However, wingless queens

 (ergatoids) and males occur in a few species



- The metasoma (the "abdomen") of the ant houses important <u>internal organs</u>, including those of the <u>reproductive</u>, <u>respiratory</u> (tracheae) and <u>excretory</u> <u>systems</u>.
- Workers of many species have their egg-laying structures modified into <u>stings</u> that are used for defending their nests, attacking prey

Monomorium pharaonis



Workers of many species have their sting structures modified into an acidopore

Acidopore (Brachymyrmex sp.)





Pictures

Paraguay ants Project http://projects.biodiversity.be/ants