

ISBN 951-661-023-4

ISSN 0001-7299

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### Abstract

BARONI URBANI, CESARE & COLLINGWOOD, CEDRIC A.: The zoogeography of ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) in Northern Europe. 1. — *Acta Zool. Fennica* 152:1—34. 1977.

Results from a numerical analysis of 67 indigenous ant species mapped on 103 area units to include the British Isles, Denmark and Fennoscandia are discussed. 12 sets of species groups clustering at a similarity level  $\geq 0.5$  represent the major distribution patterns of North European ants.

Multiple regressions calculated between species number per area unit and 11 environmental variables showed that main determinants included bright sunshine, July temperatures, relative oceanicity and length of growing season; these showed correlations in decreasing order with the distribution type having the largest number of species (40%) representing the numerically dominant component of every area unit.

Presence/absence analysis separated 21 biogeographical areas clustering at the 0.75 similarity level. The British Isles, as the largest homogenous area, separates out mainly from the absence of particular species, especially members of the world-wide genus *Camponotus*. Some characteristic island faunae may be explained by the competitive advantage of post-glacial first colonisers. No support for postulating pre-glacial relict species was found.

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