

Occurrence of *Formica uralensis* Ruzsky (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) in Pasvik, North Norway

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The first Norwegian colonies of *Formica uralensis* were discovered on marshes in Pasvik, Finnmark county, summer 1974.

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During June and July 1974 several colonies of *Formica uralensis* were discovered on marshes between Vaggatøen and Sortbrysttjern in Upper Pasvik, the district of Sør Varanger in Finnmark county. The ant hills were rather small, about 30 cm in diameter, and were situated among scrubs of *Betula nana* and *Ledum palustre* in drier parts of the bogs.

According to Larsson (1943) *F. uralensis* is an eastern species. Until now there have been no Norwegian records (Collingwood 1974), but the species has a wide distribution in Sweden (Forsslund 1957). The occurrence of *F. uralensis* in Finnmark is not surprising, as the area has many faunistical and floristical elements of eastern origin.

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