

single worker was collected in Mexico: MICHOACAN: 10.5 km N Cheran, 28-vii-1988, 2,255 meters, R. Anderson.

Ponera exotica also appears to be widely distributed in the United States, at least from western Texas north to Oklahoma, east to North Carolina and south to Florida. It probably occurs in the mountains of northern Mexico. It is common in leaf litter in the montane forests of Big Bend National Park, Texas. New localities include: ARKANSAS: Cross Co., Village Creek State Park. LOUISIANA: Natchitoches Parish, Kisatchie National Forest, Red Bluff Camp. TEXAS: Bandera Co., Lost Maples State Natural Area. Brewster Co., Big Bend National Park (Cattail Falls, Pine Canyon, Oak Canyon). Houston Co., Big Slough Wilderness. Jeff Davis Co., 3.4 km NE Fort Davis.

Both species were found in the same samples at two localities (AR, Cross Co. and TX, Houston Co.). *Ponera pennsylvanica* appears to be a widely distributed eastern species, while *P. exotica* is a more restricted southeastern species (Figs. 1 and 2).

We know almost nothing about the roles these ants play in ecosystems, but they are apparently predators (Bechinski and Pedigo, 1981), especially on termites (Escoubas et al., 1987). Nests of *P. pennsylvanica* occur in shaded areas in or near deciduous forests under stones and in decayed logs (DuBois, 1985). Males and females have been collected in nests from July to September (DuBois, 1985). Both species are common and large numbers can be found by intensive collecting, especially with litter and soil extractions. More intensive collecting could easily reveal more details of their habits and distributions.—William P. MacKay and Robert S. Anderson, Laboratory for Environmental Biology, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Texas, El Paso, Texas 79968 (WPM), and Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa K1P 6P4, Canada (RSA). Please correspond with William P. MacKay at the University of Texas.

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