

NEW RECORDS OF *LEPTOTHORAX WILSONI* FROM
WESTERN NORTH AMERICA

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ABSTRACT

The parasitic ant *Leptothorax wilsoni* Heinze, 1989 was recorded from New Hampshire, Quebec, and New Brunswick. We report on colonies found in two sites in Jasper National Park, Alberta and in one site south of Glacier National Park, Montana. The host species in the west is apparently the same as in the eastern area. Brachypterous intermorphic and fully alate gynomorphic females were found together in two colonies, confirming that *L. wilsoni* is a species with queen polymorphism. *L. wilsoni* workers and host species queens lacked in all colonies, as in the samples from eastern North America.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The social-parasitic ant *Leptothorax wilsoni* Heinze, 1989, was reported from three sites in eastern North America: (i) the type locality, Mt. Monadnock, Cheshire Co., New Hampshire (USA); (ii) Mont du Lac des Cygnes, Parque National des Grands Jardins, Québec (Canada); and (iii) Moncton, Westmoreland Co., New Brunswick (Canada). Its most interesting characters are dimorphic queens (ordinary fully alate and brachypterous intermorphic form), and the lack of subapical mandibular teeth. The worker caste is absent.

We report here the recovery of six additional colonies of *L. wilsoni* from three sites in western North America, two from Jasper National Park, Alberta (Canada), and one from the southern border of Glacier National Park, Montana (USA). The new records