

become widespread in Waikato and other parts of New Zealand. It is likely that the spread of *P. rugosula* to areas outside greater Auckland would be assisted by transportation of whole nests in soil of potted plants. Specimens of *P. rugosula* in NZAC and PANZ have been misidentified as *P. megacephala* in the past. Also, Valentine & Walker (1991) catalogue the species as *Pheidole variabilis* Mayr, not recording the subspecies. Among the label data for this species were several records of *P. rugosula* attacking mantid oothecae, including those of the native mantid *Orthodera novaezealandiae* (Colenso).

P. vigilans is the least frequently collected species of *Pheidole*, all but two records coming from Northland. However, since this species is endemic to the south-eastern corner of Australia (Brown 1971), climatic conditions should not restrict its spread through the more temperate regions of the North Island.

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