

genus comprises 59 described species (Bolton, 1995). Members of this genus are common arboreal ants in many tropical areas and bear the common name „black tree ant“. They tend trophobionts and collect dead insects (pers. obs.).

FORMICINAE

Anoplolepis longipes (Jerdon)

Formica longipes Jerdon, 1851: 122.
Anoplolepis longipes (Jerdon); Emery, 1925: 17.
[in several ecological papers referred to as “Crazy Ant” or “Red Ant”].

Distribution. - Africa, Asia, America, Australia; SEYCHELLES: S: Mahé (whole of the northeastern part of the island north of the line Northolme-Victoria (areas of heavy infestation see below) [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Anse Louis [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Bel Air/St. Louis [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Bel Eau [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Bel Ombre [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Brillant [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Cascade [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Glacis [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Grand Anse Beach [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Hermitage [I. H. & J. B. Haines], La Louise [I. H. & J. B. Haines], La Misère [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Les Canelles [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Les Mamelles [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Lime Plantation Grand Anse [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Maldive [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Mare Anglais [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Pointe La Rue [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Port Glaud ([I. H. & J. B. Haines], coastal road between Port Glaud and L’Islette [W. H. O. Dorow]), Union Vale [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Val d’Endor [I. H. & J. B. Haines], Victoria ([I. H. & J. B. Haines], Botanical Garden, entrance [W. H. O. Dorow]), Sauzier Waterfall [W. H. O. Dorow]), Praslin ([I. H. & J. B. Haines], Anse Petite Cour, La Reserve Hotel [W. H. O. Dorow]).

Ecology. - Tropical tramp species introduced in 1962 on Mahé, in 1975 on Praslin (Haines & Haines, 1978a, Lewis *et al.* 1976); living in several habitats ranging from such without ground cover vegetation to densely vegetated areas;

nesting on the ground and in trees; polygynous up to more than 300 queens; 2500-36000 workers per nest; sexual stages throughout the year, main production shortly before or after the rainy season (from November to March), but no real seasonality; colony foundation mainly by colony fission; nutrition: trophobiontic and carnivorous (dead or living invertebrates including insects, spiders, earthworms, molluscs and dead or injured vertebrates - I. H. & J. B. Haines (1994) observed the species bringing in several native ant species), diurnal foragers; strong interactions with other invertebrates, especially ants, whose numbers are markedly reduced (Haines & Haines, 1978a-d, Mahoune pers. com., 1993). Like many other trophobiotic ants the species shows beneficial and harmful aspects which can be of economic importance (see Haines, 1975ff for control of the species); colony area radius about 100 m (Haines & Haines, 1979a, b). I collected the species at roadside trees (with many lichens on the trunk) close to the seashore of Mahé’s westcoast; running on a waterpipeline through wet grasland near the Sauzier waterfall; on the entrance roads and nearby vegetation of the botanical garden in Victoria; on the road and on palm trees of the La Reserve Hotel at Anse Petite Cour on Praslin. These sites demonstrate the broadness of the ecological niche of the species.

Brachymyrmex cordemoyi Forel

Brachymyrmex patagonicus var. *cordemoyi* Forel, 1895: 49.
Brachymyrmex cordemoyi Forel; Emery, 1905: 178.

Distribution. - America; SEYCHELLES: S: Albatross [M. Mühlenberg], Aride [M. Mühlenberg], Chauve Souris [M. Mühlenberg], Cousin [M. Mühlenberg], Fregate [M. Mühlenberg], Grande Soeur [M. Mühlenberg], L’Islette [W. H. O. Dorow], Mahé (Cascade Estate [H. M. Scott], tea factory south of Morne Blanc [W. H. O. Dorow]), Petite Soeur [M.