

*oma ambiguum* Emery, *Formica rufa* Linnaeus and *Myrmica sabuleti* Meinert. Typical ant species in the central parts of the nature reserve are *Tetramorium caespitum* (Linnaeus), *M. sabuleti*, *T. ambiguum* and *M. schencki*.

Two workers of *M. schencki* were found in the same pitfall in which we found *M. schenckiooides*. In the roadside verge and in the nature reserve, this possible host species occurred in 50% of the pitfalls in open vegetation ( $n=12$ ). We may assume that *M. schencki* is locally common. A high host density is an important condition for the presence of socially parasitic *Myrmica*'s.

## Discussion

The description of *M. schenckiooides* is based on one individual. Most workerless socially parasitic *Myrmica*'s are rare and local: *M. myrmicoxena* has been found once in the Swiss Alps, *M. lemasnei* has been found a few times in the Pyrenees, *M. kabylica* (Cagniani) has been found once in Algeria, and also *M. ereptrix* is based on a single queen from Kashmir. Only *M. karavajevi* has a widespread distribution, but is very rare (Radchenko & Elmes 2003).

The apparently characteristic lobe at the ventral side of the postpetiole of *M. schenckiooides* could be, for example, caused by the nematode *Mermis* (see Radchenko & Elmes 2003). In that case the gyne of *M. schenckiooides* could in fact belong to *M. schencki*. However, there are too many differences between *M. schencki*-gynes and the gyne we found for it to be an artefact.

## Acknowledgements

The ant survey was part of a study financed by the Road and Hydraulic Engineering Division of the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management. We thank the local authority of Harderwijk for permission to work in the Beekhuizerzand. Maurits Gleichman, André Schaffers and Louis de Nijs are thanked for helpful assistance.

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Received 26 January 2005, accepted 18 May 2005.

## Samenvatting

**De kokergaststeekmier *Myrmica schenckiooides* nov. sp., een nieuwe sociaal-parasitaire mierensoort (Hymenoptera, Formicidae)**

De kokergaststeekmier is een nieuwe soort van het geslacht *Myrmica*. In 2004 is één gevleugeld wijfje gevonden in een vangpot in een berm van de A28. De vindplaats is een heischrale vegetatie langs het natuurgebied het Beekhuizerzand, vlakbij Harderwijk, Gelderland (Amersfoortcoördinaten 174-483). De nieuwe soort is gemakkelijk te onderscheiden van de veronderstelde gastheer de kokersteekmier *M. schencki* en verwante sociaal-parasitaire *Myrmica*'s (*M. myrmicoxena* en *M. karavajevi*). De brede lob aan de onderkant van de postpetiolus, de smalle frons, de witte beharing en de kenmerkende scapus vormen een unieke combinatie van kenmerken en maken deze soort eenvoudig te herkennen.