

Along with the *M. fieldi* specimens, the NPPRL collection (PANZ) holdings of *M. antipodum* specimens collected in New Zealand (including those labelled as *M. orientale*) were sent to Steve Shattuck for comparison and he found that all of these specimens belong to the same species, the Australian *M. fieldi* (S. Shattuck, November 2004, *personal communication*).

*Monomorium antipodum* Forel was first described in 1901 from Auckland (Hymenoptera Name server 2001), and with confirmation of the identity of *M. fieldi*, it is possible that *M. fieldi* may be the junior synonym of *M. antipodum* (S. Shattuck, November 2004, *personal communication*). Clearly, the taxonomy of the New Zealand *Monomorium* needs to be revisited to clarify the validity of the species name *antipodum*.

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### **References**

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