

3. Discussion

In total 78 species are listed, more than half the number of species so far recorded from Yemen. Seven genera (*Aenictus*, *Anochetus*, *Odontomachus*, *Oligomyrmex*, *Axinidris*, *Linepithema* and *Iridomyrmex*) were recorded for the first time from Yemen, 4 of which are new for the whole Arabian Peninsula. A total of 20 species could be added to the list of Yemeni ant species, 8 of which are also new for Arabia. The number of ant species known from Yemen has now risen to 149.

It is clear that many ant species can be captured with the help of Malaise- and light-traps. In the present case, 57 species (= 73% of the total number of species) were collected in a Malaise- and/or light trap. However, it is also clear that the leaf litter will contain numerous additional ant species, as 7 of the 19 new records were discovered when searching through leaf litter.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Dr. Ahmed SALLAM, Dr. Ahmed AWAD, Dr. Haithami Massoud NASER, Mr. Saleh Al HARURI, Mr. Mohamed MAHYOUB and the late Mr. Monasir AFIF for their assistance with the operation of Malaise- and light-traps. Prof. Saeed Ba ANGOOD and Mr. Abdu FARAH were so kind to let us have their ant samples.

References

- COLLINGWOOD, C.A. (1985): Hymenoptera: Fam. Formicidae of Saudi Arabia. – Fauna of Saudi Arabia 7: 230-302.
COLLINGWOOD, C.A. & AGOSTI, D. (1996): Formicidae (Insecta: Hymenoptera) of Saudi Arabia (Part 2). – Fauna of Saudi Arabia 15: 300-385.
COLLINGWOOD, C.A. & HARTEN, A. van (1994): A General Guide to the Ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) of Yemen. – Yemeni-German Plant Protection Project, Sana'a, 39 pp.
COLLINGWOOD, C.A., TIGAR, B.J. & AGOSTI, D. (1997): Introduced Ants in the United Arab Emirates. – Journal of Arid Environments 37: 305-312.

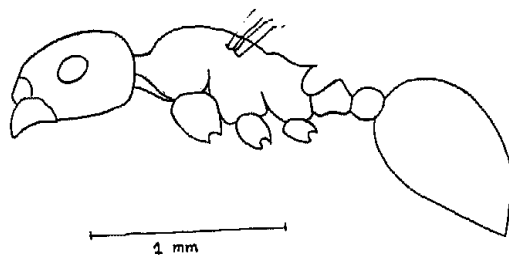


Fig. 1 *Leptothorax megalops* HAMMAN & KLEMM, queen: profile.