



Fig. 8: Map of Europe and northern Asia including all findings of *Formica pressilabris* NYLANDER, 1846 evaluated by us. Original map with permission of Microsoft®Encarta®2006©1993-2005 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.



Fig. 9: Map of Europe and northern Asia including all findings of *Formica suecica* ADLERZ, 1902 evaluated by us. Original map with permission of Microsoft®Encarta®2006©1993-2005 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Line (JOHANSEN 1955) in the mountain-steppe and forest-steppe zone of Russia, Mongolia, and China (Fig. 7).

RS found *F. pisarskii* in open steppes and mountain-steppes between 500 m a.s.l. (near Lake Baikal) and 2300 m a.s.l. (Changai Mts, Mongolia). Shrubs and trees were mostly absent. The nests were often below stones without any mound of plant material. Whenever nest-mounds were built, they were rather small (diameter 10 to 30 cm, height 5 to 15 cm) but of usual *Coptoformica* type: built of finely-cut grass pieces.

#### ***Formica pressilabris* NYLANDER, 1846**

Panpalaeartic. – Europe: temperate to South boreal, planar to subalpine. Asia: Tibetan to Central-Siberian-Daurian and East Manshurian, montane to subalpine.

*Formica pressilabris* is a boreo-alpine-continental species (SEIFERT 2000). DLUSSKY (1967) provided some insight into the distribution of "*F. rufomaculata*" in southwestern Siberia and Far East Russia, and KUPYANSKAYA (1990) indicated findings of "*F. rufomaculata*" along the Pacific Coast of Far East Russia (Primorsky Krai). We investigated specimens from 62 locations ranging from the French Pyrenees in the West to the Pacific coast near Vladivostok (Primorsky Krai, Russia) in the East, and from 65° N in Finland to South Tibet (China, exact locality unknown, approximately 28° N) in the South (Fig. 8). Only

few localities are known in Asia; we report, in addition to the above-mentioned locations, two findings from the Urals and one from Mongolia. The gap between the European and Asian findings is probably based on different collecting intensities in parts of the distribution area. Ecologically and zoogeographically, *F. pressilabris* should have a continuous distribution from west to east.

#### ***Formica suecica* ADLERZ, 1902**

West Palaearctic. – North temperate to boreal, in the Alps montane to subalpine.

For a long time, *Formica suecica* was regarded as being endemic to Fennoscandia and Estonia (COLLINGWOOD 1979). An occurrence in southern Sweden, southern Finland, and Estonia (see map in COLLINGWOOD 1979: 135) seems possible from the zoogeographic point of view. However, the characters given in Collingwood's key will readily lead to confusion with reddish, broad-headed *F. exsecta* with weaker eye setae; it is the experience of BS that several myrmecologists made this type of misidentification. This urgently calls for careful investigation of voucher specimens from these regions. BS will readily check suspicious material.

Findings in the Alps (GLASER & SEIFERT 1999) and Siberia (West-Siberian lowlands near Tevris) indicate that *Formica suecica* has a much wider range (Fig. 9) – it ap-