

A preliminary checklist of the ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) of Andorra

Abel Bernadou^{1,3,4}, Vincent Fourcassié^{1,2}, Xavier Espadaler³

1 Université de Toulouse, UPS, Centre de Recherches sur la Cognition Animale, 118 route de Narbonne, F-31062 Toulouse cedex 9, France **2** CNRS, Centre de Recherches sur la Cognition Animale, 118 route de Narbonne, F-31062 Toulouse cedex 9, France **3** Departament de Biologia Animal, de Biologia Vegetal i d'Ecològia, Facultat de Ciències, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, E-08193 Bellaterra, Spain **4** Present address: University of Regensburg, Biologie I, Universitätsstraße 31, 93053 Regensburg, Germany

Corresponding author: Abel Bernadou (Abel.Bernadou@biologie.uni-regensburg.de)

Academic editor: B. Fisher | Received 15 January 2013 | Accepted 3 February 2013 | Published 15 March 2013

Citation: Bernadou A, Fourcassié V, Espadaler X (2013) A preliminary checklist of the ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) of Andorra. ZooKeys 277: 13–23. doi: 10.3897/zookeys.277.4684

Abstract

Within the last decade, checklists of the ant fauna of several European countries have been published or updated. Nevertheless, no ant checklists have hitherto been published for the principality of Andorra, a small landlocked country located in the eastern part of the Pyrenees. This work presents a critical list of the ant species of Andorra based on a review of the literature and on the biological material we collected during several field campaigns conducted in Andorra since the year 2005. Seventy-five species belonging to 21 genera of Formicidae were recorded. Nine species were recorded for the first time in Andorra: *Aphaenogaster gibbosa* (Latreille, 1798), *Camponotus lateralis* (Olivier, 1792), *Camponotus piceus* (Leach, 1825), *Formica exsecta* Nylander, 1846, *Lasius piliferus* Seifert, 1992, *Tapinoma madeirense* Forel, 1895, *Temnothorax lichtensteini* (Bondroit, 1918), *Temnothorax niger* (Forel, 1894), *Temnothorax nigriceps* (Mayr, 1855). The most speciose genera were *Formica* Linnaeus, 1758 and *Temnothorax* Forel, 1890 with 14 and 12 species, respectively. The ant fauna of Andorra is mostly dominated by Central European species (some are typical cold climate specialists); however species belonging to the Mediterranean ant fauna were also found. This can be explained by the particular geographic situation of Andorra which is characterized by a high mountain Mediterranean climate.

Keywords

Hymenoptera, Formicidae, checklist, new records, Andorra, Pyrenees