

Canyon on E side Quinn Canyon Ra. *White Pine Co.*: Lehman Caves Nat. Mon.

Leptothorax muscorum (Nylander)

WORKER. Small. Dark reddish brown varying to head and thorax reddish black or thorax yellowish red, gaster very dusky red. Head and thorax dull, gaster strongly shining.

RANGE. Canada, Alaska, and the northern states with a southward extension in the Rocky Mountains to New Mexico; Nevada; northern Eurasia.

LITERATURE NOTES. This small ant "is one of the very few truly boreal-alpine members of its family. It is known from a very wide area in the northern Palearctic" (Brown, 1955:43). "Of all ants occurring in North America, *Leptothorax muscorum* is the species best able to survive in extreme Arctic-alpine conditions. Throughout boreal and alpine North America within the limits of the timbered areas, *L. muscorum* is found in company with *Camponotus herculeanus* (Linnaeus) and *Formica neorufibarbis* Emery, the two dominant ants of the region" (Brown, 1955:47). Brown (p. 49) reported *L. muscorum* from an island at the mouth of the Mackenzie River, lat. 69°32'N, long. 133°47'W, which "seems to be the northernmost record for ants in the Western Hemisphere."

Gregg (1963:397) reported this ant in Colorado from dry tundra and a variety of forest types; 5,345–12,000 ft.

NEVADA NOTES. We have 25 records from 18 localities 6,400–11,000 ft. Four records were in the Alpine Biome, 14 were in the Coniferous Forest. In the Alpine 1 nest was under a stone and 1 in dead wood; in the Coniferous Forest 7 nests were in and under rotten wood and 2 were in and under loose bark on dead trunks.

NEVADA LOCALITIES. Map 30. *Douglas Co.*: 17 mi. ESE Carson City (-14N-22) 7,600 ft. *Elko Co.*: Harrison Pass 7,200 ft.; 4 mi. S Jarbidge 8,000 ft.; Lamoille; Lamoille Canyon Road 8,200 ft.; Lamoille Lake (-31N-58) 9,700 ft.; Pole Canyon in East Humboldt Ra. (-34N-61). *Esmeralda Co.*: Boundary Peak 11,000 ft. *Nye Co.*: Table Mt. 10,000 ft., 10,500 ft., 10,800 ft. *Washoe Co.*: Little Valley 6,400 ft.; Hwy. 27 nr Mt. Rose 8,800 ft.; California boundary (31-17N-18) 8,600 ft.; Ophir Grade 6 mi. WSW Virginia City 5,500 ft.; Peavine Peak 7,400 ft. *White Pine Co.*: Lehman Caves Nat. Mon. 7,500 ft.; Pyramid Peak (-12N-68) 9,800 ft.

Leptothorax nevadensis W.M. Wheeler

WORKER. Small. Head dark reddish gray, thorax very dusky red, gaster reddish black varying to concolorous reddish black. Head and thorax dull, gaster shining.

RANGE. Western Montana to Washington and southward to southern California; mostly in mountains.

NEVADA NOTES. Statewide in Nevada. There are 43 records from 36 localities; 4,100–10,000 ft., mostly 6,000–8,000 ft. Fourteen records were in the Cool Desert (1 in *Sarcobatus Subclimax*), 10 were in the Pinyon-Juniper Biome, 13 in the Coniferous Forest, and 1 in the Alpine. Nine nests

were under stones, 2 had a small disc of excavated soil around the exposed entrance, 1 was in an old dry root of *Artemisia tridentata*, 1 had a minute opening among pebbles and pine needles, 1 was in the edge of a nest of *Formica puberula*, and 1 in the edge of a nest of *F. subpolita*. Entrances were usually 2 mm in diameter.

NEVADA RECORDS. Map 31. *Clark Co.*: Spring Mts. (21-18S-55) 7,000 ft.; Kyle Canyon. *Elko Co.*: Lamoille Canyon Road 7,000 ft., 8,200 ft.; 24 mi. ESE Wells 5,800 ft.; Secret Pass 6,400 ft. *Esmeralda Co.*: Boundary Peak 8,800 ft., 8,900 ft. *Humboldt Co.*: 34 mi. NE Vya 6,300 ft.; 6 mi. W Orovada 4,100 ft. *Lander Co.*: 14 mi. SSE Eastgate 6,700 ft.; Austin. *Lincoln Co.*: Atlanta 7,000 ft. *Mineral Co.*: Lucky Boy Pass 8,000 ft. *Nye Co.*: Test Site (Cole, 1966:17); South Twin River in Toiyabe Ra. 6,800 ft.; S side Mt. Jefferson 10,000 ft. *Ormsby Co.*: 3 mi. WSW Carson City (Kings Canyon) 6,100 ft.; Kings Canyon (W.M. Wheeler, 1903:254). *Storey Co.*: 4 mi. N Virginia City 6,200 ft. *Washoe Co.*: Little Valley 6,400 ft., 6,500 ft.; Peavine Peak 6,900 ft., 8,100 ft.; Hwy. 27 nr Mt. Rose 8,800 ft.; 20 mi. NNE Vya 6,300 ft.; 6 mi. SW Reno 6,400 ft.; 10 mi. NW Reno 6,500 ft., 7,000 ft.; 10 mi. WNW Reno 6,500 ft. *White Pine Co.*: 14 mi. NW Ely 7,100 ft.; 10 mi. SW Ely 7,000 ft., 7,500 ft.; 19 mi. SW Ely 6,000 ft.; Jakes Valley (17-18N-60) 6,400 ft.; 2 mi. E McGill 7,700 ft.

Leptothorax nitens Emery

WORKER. Small. Pale yellow, head and thorax infuscated with yellowish brown varying to yellow, head infuscated with brownish yellow, gaster infuscated with dark yellowish brown. Head shining, thorax dull, gaster strongly shining.

RANGE. Wyoming, Colorado, and Texas westward to the Pacific.

NEVADA NOTES. We have 10 records from 7 localities; 5,300–7,700 ft. Two were in the Pinyon-Juniper Biome, 3 were in the Coniferous Forest. Three nests were under stones.

NEVADA LOCALITIES. Map 32. *Clark Co.*: 4 mi. NNE Charleston Park in Spring Mts. 7,700 ft.; Lee Canyon; Kyle Canyon. *Washoe Co.*: Little Valley 6,400 ft.; 4 mi. N Verdi 6,300 ft.; 24 mi. NNW Reno 5,300 ft.; Gerlach.

Leptothorax obliquicanthus Cole

WORKER. Small. Concolorous black. Head and thorax feebly shining, gaster strongly shining.

RANGE. Southern Colorado, northern New Mexico, and southern Nevada.

NEVADA NOTES AND LOCALITIES. Map 31. We have only 2 records from 2 localities for this rare species and field notes on only 1: 3 mi. SSW Moores Sta. in Hot Creek Valley, Nye Co., 6,200 ft.; nest exposed and surmounted by a 10-cm crater. The other record was 2 mi. S Ash Spring in Lincoln Co., 3,800 ft.

Leptothorax rugatulus Emery

WORKER. Small. Head reddish black, thorax dark red, gaster dark reddish brown varying to head and gaster dark