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Ants of the Balearic Islands.

(Contributions from the Entomological Laboratory of the Bussey Institution, Harvard University, No. 263)

By

William Morton Wheeler.

Our knowledge of the Formicidae of the Balearic Islands consisted of a few scattered references in the literature till 1925 when Lomnicki (Une Contribution à la Connaissance de la Faune des Fourmis des Iles Baléares. Polsk. Pismo Ent. (Bull. Ent. Pologne) 4, 1925 p. 1—3) recorded 16 forms taken by Tenenbaum in 1913 on Majorca, Iviza and Cabrera. During the current year Menozzi (Zur Kenntnis der Ameisenfauna der Balearen. Zool. Anzeig. 66, 1926 p. 180—182) has followed this paper with a list of 23 forms collected by Dr. H. Eidmann in Majorca between August 29 and September 18, 1925. Just before Eidmann's visit to the islands I was able, as the guest of Mr. Allison V. Armour on his yacht, the „Utowana“, to visit Iviza, Majorca and Minorca and to collect ants in several localities not visited by Tenenbaum and Eidmann. During the period of my visit the islands were very dry and dusty and the ants, at no time abundant in species and colonies, were inactive or aestivating even in the more mountainous portions of Majorca.

In connection with the ants two interesting insects, not hitherto recorded from the Balearics, are worthy of mention. One of these is the small myrme-