

Lasius niger (Linnaeus)

Lasius niger (Linnaeus 1758), Wheeler 1908 [Mi], 1927 [Azores], Santschi 1933 [Mi, T], Wellenius 1949 [Fa, Fl, G, Jo, Mi, P, T], Carthy 1955a [Fa, P].
Acanthomyops niger (Linnaeus 1758), Donisthorpe 1936 [Jo, P].
Lasius niger var. *grandis* Forel 1909, Santschi 1933 [Jo, Mi, T], *nec* Forel.
Acanthomyops niger var. *grandis* (Forel 1909), Donisthorpe 1936, *nec* Forel.

Faial: Costa da Nau, 4.IV.57, loc. 88; 0.5 km. WNW of Ribeirinha, 1.IV.57, loc. 73; Porto do Boca da Ribeira, 1 km. E of Ribeirinha, 1.IV.57, loc. 74; Praia do Almoxarife, 31.III.57, loc. 72; Horta, Ribeira dos Flamengos, 31.III.57, loc. 71; Baía Arcia das Fontes, 2.IV.57; Cabeço do Fogo, 4.IV.57, loc. 90; Porto do Salão, 1.IV.57, loc. 75.

Flores: Ribeira d'Além da Fazenda, 14.IV.57, loc. 108.

Pico: 4 km. WNW of Lajes, 5 IV.57, loc. 101; Volcano Pico, west side, c.350m., 8.IV.57, loc. 99.

Sta. Maria: 2 km. ENE of Almagreira. Mirador dos Picos, 440m., 19.III.57, loc. 39; Pico Alto, 19.III.57, locs. 40, 41.

São Miguel: 3 km. of Pico da Pedra, 23.III.57, loc. 64; Caldeira das Sete Cidades, 8.III.57, loc. 18; Lagoa do Fogo, 23.III.57, loc. 54; Sete Cidades, 2.III.57, loc. 7; Charco de Madeira, 1.III.57, loc. 4; Lagoa Azul, 21.III.57, loc. 50; Relva, Tanque da Rocha Quebrada, 15.III.57, loc. 31; Lagoa de Fumas, 10.III.57, loc. 22; Caldeiras, 5 km. SE of Ribeira Grande, 14.III.57, loc. 28; Valley of Ribeira Quente, 2 km. SE of Fumas, 11.III.57, loc. 23; 1 km. N of Povoação, 24.III.57, loc. 60; River NW of Água Retorta, 23. III.57, loc. 57; Lagoa do Congo, 16.III.57, loc. 34; Ribeira da Praia, 3 km. W of Vila Franca do Campo, 13.III.57, loc. 27; Vila Franca do Campo, 28.II.57, loc. 2.

Terceira: Caldeira de G. Moniz, 27.III.57, loc. 65; Lagoa do Ginjal, 27.III.57, loc. 66.

L. niger is unquestionably the most widely spread ant in these islands and it is probably also the most numerous. It has been found on every island except Corvo, where it will almost certainly yet be found and it has been present in every collection reported. A rather striking feature, previously noted by Wellenius is the high proportion of workers which have the thorax and scale noticeably paler than the head and gaster. Such individuals, which occur in samples with perfectly normal ones, strongly resemble another species, *L. emarginatus* Olivier but the antennal scapes and tibiae have many more erect hairs than in that species. Specimens in