

and Asia Minor: most of Ruzsky's *gagates* must be *picea* Nyl.; *gagates* Latr. doesn't occur in northern Russia nor anywhere in northern Europe, whilst *picea* Nyl. is characteristic for the north and east of Europe.

In 1931 Karawaiew mentions *F. picea* Nyl., but not *gagates* Latr., as belonging to the Swedish fauna, supposing (p. 215) Adlerz' *gagates* to be *picea* Nyl. Bönner and Adlerz have earlier (1914) pointed out that *gagates* Latr. from Jutland and Österbotten are *picea* Nyl. JANSSON (1934 p. 295) still regards the species found in Öland and Gotland as *gagates* Latr., and reports it from Östergötland too.

In the spring of 1938 I asked my friend the coleopterologist A. STRAND, Oslo, to collect some ants for me on Dovre, where he has a summer residence, as I hoped to be furnished with material of *F. gagates* Latr., which I then supposed the species to be — as I knew only the work of Adlerz (1886) and none of Bönner's publications (1914—15). In my collection I had neither *picea* nor *gagates*, nor were they represented in the collections of the Zoological Museum in Oslo.

Strand brought several ♀♀ of the supposed *gagates* (and other species too), and when I a short time later began a revision of the Formicidae in the Zool. Museum (Oslo), I discovered that several specimens of «*F. fusca* L.» were identical with *gagates* from Dovre (Vålåsjo, A. Strand leg.). I had no doubt that I here had the same species which Adlerz has published from Kongsvoll.

In July 1940 I found the species myself in the mountains of Suldal (south-western Norway, county of Rogaland), and my colleague cand. real. Y. HAGEN who at my request collected some ants at Ustaoset (Hardangervidda, central Norway) a couple of weeks later, found it there and sent me ♀♀ and some ♂♂. I myself had found ♀♀ and deälated ♀♀ (queens).

Studying the specimens more closely, I soon saw that they did not quite agree with the description of *gagates* Latr. Epinotum was not rounded as in this species, but like epinotum of *picea* Nyl., of which in the meanwhile a ♀ and many ♀♀ had been sent me by Mr. A. JANSSON, Örebro (Sweden). The differences between our species and *picea* Nyl. were rather striking.