

The male of *Leptothorax risi* Forel, 1892 (Hymenoptera, Formicidae)

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Abstract. The male of the canarian species *Leptothorax risi* Forel is described. Eight localities are known for this endemic species. Differences from the males of *L. hesperius* are subtle.

Resumen. Se describe el macho de *Leptothorax risi* Forel, que difiere muy poco de los de *L. hesperius*. Se conocen ocho localidades para esta especie endémica de Gran Canaria.

Introduction

Leptothorax risi Forel, 1892 is an endemic canarian species known only from the Island of Gran Canaria (Barquín 1981); both female castes have been described (Forel 1892, Santchi 1909). A short visit in April 5, 1987 to Gran Canaria of one of the authors (R. R.) provided the opportunity to get some alive nests of ants; one of them was of *L. risi* and the composition was as follows: 51 workers, one queen, 66 larvae and some eggs; the ants were fed weekly an artificial diet (Bhatkar & Whitcomb 1970) supplemented with cricket hind legs. Two months later three females and six males eclosed. Their description follows. Measurements and indices are ant standards, (Bolton 1987).

Leptothorax risi Forel. Male (Figures 1-10)

Length 3.2-3.8 mm. Colour entirely black, with antennae, tip of mandibles and legs brownish; pilosity normally developed as for the males of this group (Fig. 1); propodeum bare; two pairs of posteriorly curved hairs on petiole dorsum; eyes with micropilosity.

Head longitudinally rugulose, turning to reticulate at the occipital corners; a narrow shining depression between frontal area and median ocellus is present in 3 out of 7 males. Thorax rugulose to finely reticulated; petiole and postpetiole superficially reticulated laterally, the dorsal face with subdued shine; gaster smooth and shining. HL 0.65-0.77 mm; HW 0.60-0.67 mm;