



Fig. 7. Colony foundation of *Epimyrma adlerzi* sp. n. The parasite ♀ (right, smaller) throttles the queen of *Leptothorax exilis* Emery by seizing her neck with the mandibles, amidst the workers and brood of the host species colony. Photo: W. Ehrhardt.

until 13.52

Repeated throttling, brushing, palpating, licking mouthparts of *L.e.* ♀, *L.e.* ♀ lying on her back, paralyzed.

13.55

E.a. ♀ throttles, apparently with all her energy, *L.e.* ♀ bends her body convulsively, *E.a.* ♀ brushes.

until 17.21

E.a. ♀ alternately throttles and brushes *L.e.* ♀, and brushes herself with the forelegs, then licks *L.e.* ♀ mainly on her mouthparts and tip of the gaster, sometimes the *E.a.* ♀ solicits food from *L.e.* ♀♀ (usually after having licked the *L.e.* ♀'s mouthparts - received some substance there which attracts the ♀♀?). Colony placed in 10°/20°C incubator.

until 6 Feb. 1986

Observations of throttling, licking, brushing, food exchange with ♀♀ continued.

11.30

Colony has moved into the nest, together with the host and parasite females.

until 12 Feb. 1986

E.a. ♀ continued throttling, licking etc., now sitting on top of the brood. The *L.e.* ♀ lies on her back, beside the colony, moving her legs only weakly. Her mouthparts are protruded and seem incrustated by some secretion.

13 Feb. 1986

11.55

L.e. ♀ is dragged out of the nest by *L.e.* ♀♀, has lost an antenna, but still moves her legs a little.

14 Feb. 1986

E.a. ♀ becoming physogastric, sitting on the brood. *L.e.* ♀ dead.

until June 1986

Production of some *L.e.* ♀♀ from the brood.

18 June 1986

First 3 *E.a.* ♀ pupae present.

25 June 1986

5 ♀ pupae, 1 ♂ pupa.

until 17 Sep. 1986

A total of 45 ♀♀ and 8 ♂♂ produced.

Sexual production and sex ratio

The production of five of the field-collected colonies in the first and second season after collecting, and of 19 colonies founded in the laboratory, are presented in Table 3. For at least two of the five colonies, the "first" season presumably was the second one, because they already contained a few