

Tab 1: *Epimyrma corsica* (Emery 1895) [Hymenoptera: Formicidae] – comparison of ♀♀ from Corsica and Yugoslavia. All dimensions in mm.

| Locality | Caput | | Thorax | | Scapus length | Petiolus | | Postpetiolus | |
|------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------------------|----------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | length | width | length | width | | height | width | height | width |
| Corsica Holotype ♀ | 0.60 | 0.48 | 0.73 | 0.40 | 0.37 | 0.34 | 0.17 | 0.25 | 0.24 |
| Corsica ♀ ₁ | 0.59 | 0.48 | 0.73 | 0.40 | 0.39 | 0.29 | 0.16 | 0.24 | 0.24 |
| Corsica ♀ ₂ | 0.60 | 0.48 | 0.71 | 0.40 | 0.36 | 0.32 | 0.16 | 0.25 | 0.23 |
| Corsica ♀ ₃ | 0.63 | 0.51 | 0.80 | 0.45 | 0.40 | 0.33 | 0.18 | 0.27 | 0.27 |
| Krk ♀ ₁ | 0.67 | 0.53 | 0.87 | 0.49 | 0.40 | 0.33 | 0.17 | 0.29 | 0.27 |
| Krk ♀ ₂ | 0.67 | 0.51 | 0.83 | 0.51 | 0.41 | 0.33 | 0.18 | 0.28 | 0.29 |
| Krk ♀ ₃ | 0.63 | 0.47 | 0.80 | 0.47 | 0.43 | 0.33 | 0.16 | 0.27 | 0.27 |

3 The life history of *Epimyrma corsica*

3.1: The locality of our population in Corsica is situated in about 420 m NN, a few meters N of the road no D81 in the Col de Lavezzo. The very stony to rocky area is covered by a macchia of about 1–2 m height. Colonies were found preferably in places with a not too dense vegetation cover. The nests of the host species as well as those parasitized by *Epimyrma* are located within the crevices of rocks or between small slabs lying atop each other. Usually they extend over only a few cm², and they contain, like in most *Leptothoracini*, but a few dozen up to several hundred individuals. In the island of Krk the colonies were found within dry meadows which are used as pastures only sporadically. The nests were situated preferably in the crevices of some rocky outcrops rising above the surface of the surrounding vegetation. Near Zadar, we found a few nests, again in rock crevices, in open karst areas with a very sparse low vegetation. At Ljubac a somewhat larger population was living in the clefts of a SE exposed rocky slope.

3.2: The host species in all places was identified as being *Leptothorax exilis*. Several subspecies and varieties of this species have been described, however, Baroni Urbani [1971] synonymized them all under the name of the polytypical species *L. exilis*. Whilst the ♂♂ from Corsica all appear uniformly black, the *exilis* colonies from Yugoslavia often contain several lighter, sometimes nearly yellow, specimens.

3.3: No *E. corsica* ♂♂ have been found in a total of 62 field collected colonies (including the five colonies of W. Faber). Six colonies from Krk, and 10 from Corsica, have been kept in laboratory culture for at least one breeding season. They produced numerous ♂♂, but no ♂♂ of the parasitic species (Tab 2, 3 and section 3.4).

3.4: The production of sexuals was estimated both from colonies, which were collected in the field during fall, and from laboratory bred colonies.

Tab 2 contains the results of a census which was made just after collecting (Yugoslavia, 1983-09-26/10-03). The number of ♀♀, mostly dealate, but some still alate or even in the pupal instar, by far exceeds that of the ♂♂. Since we suggest that only intranidal mating takes place (see below), it may surprise that 9 of the 14 colonies did not contain any ♂.