

but had only quite short ovarioles as compared to the ♀♀ mentioned under d, e, and f (see section 3.5, b).

Thus, at least 4 of the 18 colonies from Corsica were just in the process of foundation, and surely one or the other of the 7 colonies mentioned under c) also was recently founded, but no longer contained the host species ♀. Hence, we conclude that $\frac{1}{3}$ of the *Epimyrma* colonies in spring are newly founded, and the average life expectancy of a colony should be close to 3 years, with sexual production beginning in the year of foundation, and fading out in the 3. year when the host species ♂♂ die out. The highly variable number of host species ♂♂, which seems not well correlated with the number of *Epimyrma* ♀♀ produced (Tab 2), also fits to this interpretation.

3.7: Stinging of host colony ♂♂ by the *Epimyrma* ♀ was observed in spring, mainly in field collected colonies from Corsica. Between 1 and 7 dead or paralyzed *L. exilis* ♂♂ were found in 11 of the 18 colonies collected. However, stinging of host species workers does not only occur in newly founded colonies. In at least 4 colonies with old *Epimyrma* ♀♀ (proved by dissection) there were between 2 and 7 such ♂♂.

4 Description of the ♂ of *Epimyrma corsica*

A ♂ from Corsica was chosen as the allotype specimen. It has been deposited in the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale "Giacomo Dorina" in Genova, Italy, together with a few other ♂♂ both from Corsica and Yugoslavia.

Allotype ♂: Total length 2.78 mm, caput length 0.53 (excluding mandibulae), caput width 0.45 (behind eyes), scapus length 0.2, greatest ϕ of eyes 0.2, thorax length 0.86, width 0.46, length of petiolus 0.2, width 0.16, height 0.3, length of postpetiolus 0.13, width 0.26, height 0.26, length of praeala 2.48, postala 1.67, length of p-III femur 0.64, p-III tibia 0.47, length of gaster ca 1.06 mm.

For the dimensions of other ♂♂ from Corsica and Yugoslavia see Tab 4.

Habitus in general similar to that of other *Epimyrma* ♂♂. Mandibulae dentate with one large apical and usually 2 smaller teeth. Palpi maxillares 4-segmented, palpi labiales 2-segmented. Sometimes the segments 2 and 3 of the palpi maxillares are fused.

The normal number of antennal segments is 12 in *Epimyrma* ♂♂. However, both in *E. corsica* ♂♂ from Corsica and Yugoslavia fusions of the antennal segments 5 and 6 (with

Tab 4: *Epimyrma corsica* (Emery 1895) [Hymenoptera: Formicidae] – Comparison of ♂♂ from Corsica and Yugoslavia. All dimensions in mm.

Locality	Caput		Thorax		Scapus	Petiolus			Postpetiolus		
	l*	w*	l*	w*	l*	l*	w*	h*	l*	w*	h*
Corsica, Allotype ♂	0.53	0.45	0.86	0.46	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.30	0.13	0.26	0.26
Corsica ♂ ₂	0.50	0.44	0.83	0.47	0.20	0.20	0.17	0.29	0.13	0.27	0.26
Corsica ♂ ₃	0.51	0.43	0.85	0.45	0.20	0.21	0.16	0.28	0.13	0.26	0.25
Corsica ♂ ₄	0.53	0.45	0.83	0.49	0.20	0.20	0.17	0.29	0.13	0.27	0.25
Yugoslavia ♂ ₁	0.53	0.48	0.89	0.49	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.29	0.15	0.25	0.24
Yugoslavia ♂ ₂	0.53	0.49	0.85	0.51	0.20	0.19	0.16	0.31	0.13	0.24	0.24
Yugoslavia ♂ ₃	0.52	0.47	0.83	0.49	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.27	0.15	0.24	0.24

l* = length; w* = width; h* = height.