

L. exilis colonies which had been simultaneously invaded by 2 resp. 3 young *Epimyrma* ♀♀ (section 3.6 b). They were just engaged with the elimination of the *exilis* ♀♀. This latter observation would provide an explanation for the formation of polygynous *E. corsica* colonies. We may suspect that in both cases the *corsica* ♀♀ were full sisters coming from mother colonies in the close vicinity of the newly infested host species nests. We do not know, however, whether these ♀♀ would have remained together, or whether later on, when they had become fertile, a regulation to monogyny would have occurred. Altogether, we believe that the material in question does not convincingly support the assumption of a facultative polygyny in *E. corsica*.

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7 References

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