

A catalogue of the Ampulicidae (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) of Eritrea

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A b s t r a c t : Currently, the family Ampulicidae is represented by only two species of the genus *Ampulex* JURINE, 1807 (subfamily Ampulicinae) in Eritrea: *A. brunneofasciata* GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939 and *A. conigera* KOHL, 1893. The type of the latter is missing in the collection of the Natural History Museum Vienna (Austria).

Key words : Ampulicidae, Ampulicinae, *Ampulex*, Eritrea

Introduction

Species of the small family Ampulicidae, which is mainly distributed in tropical and subtropical parts of all zoogeographical regions, are known as cockroach hunters. The Eritrean fauna is poorly known. Hitherto, only two species of the genus *Ampulex* JURINE, 1807 (subfamily Ampulicinae) have been recorded: *A. brunneofasciata* GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939 and *A. conigera* KOHL, 1893. Nothing is known about the biology of both species.

Annotated catalogue

Subfamily Ampulicinae

Ampulex brunneofasciata GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939

Ampulex brunneofasciata n.sp.: GIORDANI SOIKA 1939: 103 (description ♀, figs. 1-4, Adi Ugri).

Ampulex brunneofasciata GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939: BOHART & MENKE 1976: 77 (world catalogue: Ethiopia = Eritrea).

Ampulex brunneofasciata GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939: VANNI, BARTOLOZZI & WHITMAN-MASCHERINI 1986: 130 (Adi Ugri, type catalogue Museo Zoologico "La Specola" dell'Università di Firenze).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Adi Ugri.

Ampulex brunneofasciata is known only from Eritrea.

Ampulex conigera KOHL, 1893

Ampulex conigera n.sp.: KOHL 1893: 473-4 (key ♀, description ♀, Massawa), 491 (world catalogue), pl. 13 (fig. 59).

Ampulex conigera KOHL, 1893: DALLA TORRE 1897: 374 (world catalogue: Ethiopia = Eritrea).

Ampulex conigera KOHL, 1893: ARNOLD 1928: 200 (key ♀), 220 (English translation of original description, not seen).

Ampulex conigera KOHL, 1893: ARNOLD 1930: 16 (catalogue Afrotropical region).

Ampulex conigera KOHL, 1893: BOHART & MENKE 1976: 77 (world catalogue: Eritrea part of Ethiopia).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Massawa.

Ampulex conigera is also recorded from Ethiopia, Tanzania and Zambia. The type should be deposited in the Natural History Museum Vienna (KOHL 1893: 474), but according to DOLLFUSS (1989: 7) the type is missing. GUIGLIA (1940: 292) notes, that F. Maidl (Natural History Museum Vienna) has compared her ♀ from Ethiopia with a cotype. A recent search for the type was unsuccessful.

***Ampulex* sp.**

? *Ampulex nebulosa* SMITH, 1856: MAGRETTI 1884a: 250 (no exact locality, catalogue species collected by expedition).

Ampulex nebulosa SMITH, 1856: MAGRETTI 1884b: 582 (taxonomy, description ♂, Sebderat).

Ampulex nebulosa SMITH, 1856: MAGRETTI 1885: 321 (biology, Sebderat), 352 (catalogue species collected by expedition).

Ampulex nebulosa SMITH, 1856: DALLA TORRE 1897: 376 (world catalogue: Eritrea not mentioned, but MAGRETTI 1884b is cited).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Sebderat.

The identification is doubtful, because *Ampulex nebulosa* is known only from South Africa.

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Zusammenfassung

Derzeit sind in Eritrea zwei Arten aus der Gattung *Ampulex* JURINE, 1807 (Unterfamilie Ampulicinae) nachgewiesen: *A. brunneofasciata* GIORDANI SOIKA, 1939 und *A. conigera* KOHL, 1893. Der Typus der letzteren Art fehlt in der Sammlung des Naturhistorischen Museums Wien (Österreich).

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