

Redescription of *Tetramorium forte* Forel, 1904 (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Formicidae), a western Mediterranean ant species

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Abstract

The western Mediterranean ant species *Tetramorium forte* Forel, 1904 is redescribed and a lectotype is designated. Taxonomic controversy surrounding the application of the name and its synonymy is thereby resolved: *T. ruginode* Stitz, 1917 (with its junior synonym *T. hispanicum* Bondroit, 1918), *T. maurum tingitanum* Santschi, 1929 and *T. maroccanum* De Haro & Collingwood, 1994 are relegated to synonymy with *T. forte*. Lectotypes are designated for *T. hispanicum*, *T. maurum tingitanum*, *T. maroccanum* and *T. silvestrianum* Emery, 1924. The latter taxon, previously regarded as a junior synonym of *T. forte*, is synonymized with *Myrmica*