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Global revision of the dulotic ant genus *Polyergus* (Hymenoptera: Formicidae, Formicinae, Formicini)

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Abstract

The genus *Polyergus* is characterized, and all valid species reinstated and re-described, and five new species described, based on morphometric, ecological, host-association, and biogeographic characteristics. *Polyergus* contains 14 species: 3 Palearctic, 11 Nearctic. The *rufescens* group comprises western Eurasian *rufescens* Latreille 1804 including its former eastern subspecies *tianschanicus* Kuznetsov-Ugamsky 1927 **new synonymy**, and the following American species, informally called the *breviceps* complex: *breviceps* Emery 1893 **sensu stricto, revised status**, *bicolor* Wasmann 1901 **new status**, *mexicanus* Forel 1899 **new status**, *topoffi* **new species**, and *vinosus* **new species**. The *lucidus* group comprises *longicornis* M. R. Smith 1947 **new status**, *lucidus* Mayr 1870 **sensu stricto, revised status**, *montivagus* Wheeler 1915 **new status**, *oligerus* **new species**, *ruber* **new species**, and *sanwaldi* **new species**. The *samurai* group comprises two blackish forms: the western Asian *P. nigerrimus* Marikovskiy 1963 and eastern Asian *P. samurai* Yano 1911. *Polyergus texana* Buckley 1866 is excluded from *Polyergus*.

Key words: dulosis, social parasitism, host specificity, taxonomy, key.