

1. PaDIL Species Factsheet



Scientific Name:

Anoplolepis gracilipes (Smith)

(Hymenoptera: Formicidae: Formicinae)

Common Name

Yellow crazy ant

Live link: <http://www.padil.gov.au:80/thai-bio/Pest/Main/140441>

Image Library

Thailand Biosecurity

Live link: <http://www.padil.gov.au:80/thai-bio/>

Partners for Thailand Biosecurity image library



Department of Agriculture, Thailand

<http://www.doa.go.th/>

2. Species Information

2.1. Details

Specimen Contact: AQIS Brisbane - <http://www.aqis.gov.au>

Author: Walker, K.

Citation: Walker, K. (2011) Yellow crazy ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*) Updated on 2/2/2011 Available online: PaDIL - <http://www.padil.gov.au>

Image Use: Free for use under the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia licence

2.2. URL

Live link: <http://www.padil.gov.au:80/thai-bio/Pest/Main/140441>

2.3. Facets

D1 - Country: Thailand, Laos, Malaysia, India, Australasia - Oceania, South and South-East Asia

D2 - Province: Nakhon Pathom, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Chanthaburi, Prachin Buri, Nakhon Phanom, Chumphon, Chon Buri, Nakhon Ratchasima

Group Overview: Pest

Group Type: Ants

Host Overview: Horticulture, Field Crops, Vegetable, General

Host Type: Unknown

Risk: Low

Status: Exotic Pest Establishment in Thailand

2.4. Other Names

Anoplolepis longipes Emery

Crazy Ant

Formica longipes Jerdon

Long-legged ant (English)

Plagiolepis longipes Emery

tramp ant

2.5. Diagnostic Notes

Total length of workers around 4 mm. Body color yellow, gaster brownish. Antennae and legs remarkably long. Head oval. Clypeus produced medially, with convex anterior margin. Eyes relatively large and produced. Mandibles with 8 teeth. Antennae 11-segmented; scapes twice as long as the length of the head, or longer; their second to terminal segments each more than three times as long as wide. Mesosoma slender. Pronotum narrow, with almost straight dorsum in profile. Anterior portion of mesonotal dorsum, back to the propodeum, gently concave in profile. Propodeal dorsum convex in profile. Petiole thick, with an inverted-U-shaped crest. Erect hairs present on head and gaster, lacking on dorsum of mesosoma.

A. gracilipes, or the yellow crazy ant, is one of the largest invasive ants. This species, also known as the long-legged ant, is notable for its remarkably long legs and antennae. It has a yellow-brownish body colour, and is weakly sclerotized. Workers have a long slender gracile body, with the gaster is usually darker than the head and thorax. It may subdue or kill invertebrate prey or small vertebrates by spraying formic acid.

Live video

2.6. References

Green, P. T., O'Dowd, D. J. and Lake, P. S. 1999. Alien ant invasion and ecosystem collapse on Christmas Island, Indian Ocean. *Aliens* 9: 2-4. Greenslade, P. J. M. 1971. Phenology of three ant species in the Solomon Islands. *J. Aust. Entomol. Soc.* 10: 241-252. Greenslade, P. J. M. 1972. Comparative ecology of four tropical ant species. *Insect. Soc.* 19: 195-212. Greenslade, P. J. M. and Greenslade, P. 1977. Some effects of vegetation cover and disturbance on a tropical ant fauna. *Insectes Soc.* 24: 163-182. Haines, I. H. and Haines, J. B. 1978. Colony structure, seasonality and food requirements of the crazy ant, *Anoplolepis longipes* (Jerd.), in the Seychelles. *Ecol. Entomol.* 3: 109-118. O'Dowd, D. J. 1999. Crazy ant attack. *Wingspan* 9(2): 7. O'Dowd, D. J., Green, P. T. and Lake, P. S. 1999. Status, impact, and recommendations for research and management of exotic invasive ants in Christmas Island National Park. Darwin, Northern Territory, Environment Australia: 50 pp, 8 figures, 2 plates.

2.7. Web Links

Christmas Island Information: http://www.wilderness.org.au/campaigns/marine/christmas_island/ants_ci/

Japanese Ant Image Database: <http://ant.edb.miyakyo-u.ac.jp/E/Taxo/F80301.html>

NSW occurrence: <http://www.agric.nsw.gov.au/reader/releases/crazy-ants.htm>

Overview information: <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=110&fr=1&sts=>

QDPI Fact Sheet: http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/4790_8654_ENA_HTML.htm

Townsville 2008 Infestation: http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/cps/rde/dpi/hs.xsl/30_10886_ENA_HTML.htm

3. Diagnostic Images



Specimen without location label.
Acidpore: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Antennae: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Dorsal: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



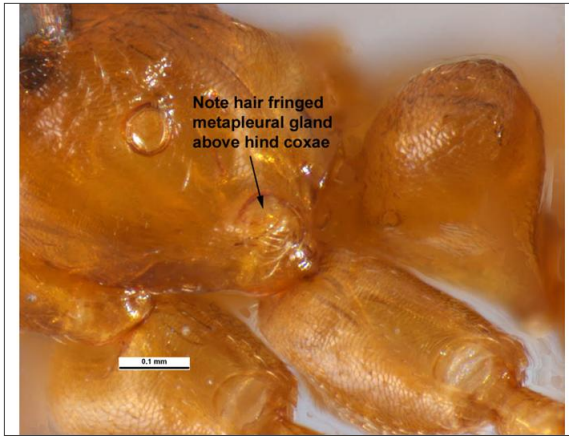
Specimen without location label.
Head close up: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Head front: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Lateral view: Ken Walker Museum Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Metapleural gland: Ken Walker Museum
Victoria



Specimen without location label.
Posterior view: Ken Walker Museum
Victoria

4. Other Images



Cairns, N Qld, Spence St, Ting Sing Bond Store, 23 April 2001, R. Gollan ex nest in Bond Store, Det. J. F. Grimshaw 2001 (NAQS/AQIS Mareeba)
Dorsal View - Queen: Amy Carmichael Queensland University of Technology



Cairns, N Qld, Spence St, Ting Sing Bond Store, 23 April 2001, R. Gollan ex nest in Bond Store, Det. J. F. Grimshaw 2001 (NAQS/AQIS Mareeba)
Head Anterior View - Queen: Amy Carmichael Queensland University of Technology



Cairns, N Qld, Spence St, Ting Sing Bond Store, 23 April 2001, R. Gollan ex nest in Bond Store, Det. J. F. Grimshaw 2001 (NAQS/AQIS Mareeba)
Lateral View - Queen: Amy Carmichael Queensland University of Technology



Cairns, N Qld, Spence St, Ting Sing Bond Store, 23 April 2001, R. Gollan ex nest in Bond Store, Det. J. F. Grimshaw 2001 (NAQS/AQIS Mareeba)
Thorax Dorsal View: Amy Carmichael Queensland University of Technology

Results Generated:

Thursday, June 20, 2019
