

**P10.-** TAXONOMIC REVISION OF THE ANT GENUS *FORMICOXENUS*  
**5** (FORMICIDAE, HYMENOPTERA)

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The nature of the ant genus *Formicoxenus* and the number of its constituent species are re-evaluated on the basis of old and new morphological and biological data. A xenobiotic life cycle, a regular production of intermorphs, and a regressive evolution of the males distinguish the genus in the family. It includes now seven species: two from Eurasia, *nitidulus* (Nylander) and *sibiricus* (Forel) nov. stat. & comb. (= *orientalis* Dlussky), and five from North America, *chamberlini* (Wheeler) nov. comb., *diversipilosus* (Smith), *hirticornis* (Emery), *provancheri* (Emery) nov. comb. and *quebecensis* Francoeur nov. sp. Among the latter four were traditionally associated to genera *Leptothorax* or *Symmyrmica*. The number of species and the most primitive forms support a nearctic origin for the genus *Formicoxenus* which invaded afterwards Eurasia where it further evolved.