

The Ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) of Sri Lanka: a taxonomic research summary and updated checklist

Ratnayake Kaluarachchige Sriyani Dias¹, Benoit Guénard², Shahid Ali Akbar³,
Evan P. Economo⁴, Warnakulasuriyage Sudesh Udayakantha¹,
Aijaz Ahmad Wachkoo⁵

1 Department of Zoology and Environmental Management, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka **2** School of Biological Sciences, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China **3** Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, 191132, India **4** Biodiversity and Biocomplexity Unit, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, Onna, Okinawa, Japan **5** Department of Zoology, Government Degree College, Shopian, Jammu and Kashmir, 190006, India

Corresponding author: Aijaz Ahmad Wachkoo (aijaz_shoorida@yahoo.co.in)

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Abstract

An updated checklist of the ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) of Sri Lanka is presented. These include representatives of eleven of the 17 known extant subfamilies with 341 valid ant species in 79 genera. *Lioptonera longitarsus* Mayr, 1879 is reported as a new species country record for Sri Lanka. Notes about type localities, depositories, and relevant references to each species record are given. Accounts of the dubious and some undetermined species from Sri Lanka are also provided. 82 species (24%) are endemic whereas 18 species that are non-native to Sri Lanka are recorded. The list provides a synthesis of the regional taxonomical work carried out to date and will serve as a baseline for future studies on the ant fauna of this biodiversity hotspot.

Keywords

Ants, checklist, endemism, Formicidae, Sri Lanka