**Monomorium floricola**

**System:** Terrestrial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Insecta</td>
<td>Hymenoptera</td>
<td>Formicidae</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Common name**
floral ant (English), futairoyo-hime-ari (English), bicoloured trailing ant (English), flower ant (English), brownish-red flower ant (English), Braunrote Blutenameise (German)

**Synonym**
- *Monomorium angusticlava*, Donisthorpe, 1947
- *Monomorium cinnabari*, Roger, 1863
- *Monomorium floreanum*, Stitz, 1932
- *Monomorium impressum*, Smith, 1876
- *Monomorium poecilum*, Roger, 1863
- *Monomorium specularis*, Mayr, 1866

**Similar species**

**Summary**
The primarily arboreal flower ant (*Monomorium floricola*) is one of the world's most broadly distributed tramp ants. Most occurrence records of *M. floricola* are in tropical and sub-tropical regions from latitudes above 30 degrees; populations in latitudes above 35 degrees are found in heated buildings or inside greenhouses. *M. floricola* has been identified as a significant arboreal predator of insect eggs; in Guam it is recognised as one of three most important ant species attacking eggs of native butterflies resulting in their reduced populations.

**Species Description**
*Monomorium floricola* are small and slender and can be distinguished by their distinctive bicoloured body; a pale body with a darker brown head and gaster (Wetterer 2010). Please click on [AntWeb: Monomorium floricola](http://www.antweb.org) for images and assistance with identification. The AntWeb image comparison tool lets you compare images of ants at the subfamily, genus, species or specimen level. You may also specify which types of images you would like to compare: head, profile, dorsal, or label. Please follow this link for a [fully illustrated Lucid key to common invasive ants [Hymenoptera: Formicidae] of the Pacific Island region](http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1755) [requires the most recent version of Java installed]. The factsheet on *Monorium floricola* contains an overview, diagnostic features, comparison charts, images, nomenclature and links. (Sarnat, 2008)

[view this species on IUCN Red List](http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1755)
Notes
Three subspecies that are direct children to *Monomorium floricola* are *Monomorium floricola floricola* (Jerdon, 1851); *Monomorium floricola furinum* Forel, 1911; *Monomorium floricola philippinense* Forel, 1910

Habitat Description
*Monomorium floricola* is primarily arboreal forming large colonies in bushes and trees in habitats that are disturbed to varying degrees. They are a common urban species in most tropical countries (Wilson & Taylor 1967 in Wetterer 2010)

General Impacts
*Monomorium floricola*, *Solenopsis geminata* and *Tapinoma minutum* are listed as significant native butterfly egg predators causing reduction in population numbers of native butterflies (Nafus 1993). In the Philippines *M. floricola* is recognised as a serious pest of silkworms (Banks 1911 in Wetterer, 2010); of coconut pests (Way et al 1989). *M. floricola* has also been observed as a dominant species sometimes in flooded mangrove habitats where there is less competition with non-arboreal species (Wetterer 2010). *M. floricola* is a common but minor agricultural and indoor pest in urban areas.

Management Info
The Pacific Ant Prevention Programme is a proposal prepared for the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation and Regional Technical Meeting For Plant Protection. This plan aims to prevent the red imported fire ant and other invasive ant species with economic, environmental and/or social impacts, entering and establishing in or spreading between (or within) countries of the Pacific Region.

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Compiler: IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:
ALIEN RANGE

[1] ANGOLA
[2] ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
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[1] BRAZIL
[1] CAMEROON
[1] CAPE VERDE
[1] CHILE
[1] CHRISTMAS ISLAND
[1] CONGO
[1] COSTA RICA
[1] DOMINICA
[1] ECUADOR
[1] EQUATORIAL GUINEA
[1] FRENCH GUIANA
[1] GERMANY
[1] GRENADE
[1] GUAM
[1] GUYANA
[1] HONDURAS
[1] JAMAICA
[3] KIRIBATI
[1] KOREA, REPUBLIC OF
[1] MADAGASCAR
[1] MARTINIQUE
[1] MEXICO
[1] MONTserrat
[2] NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
[2] NEW ZEALAND
[1] NIGERIA
[1] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] PANAMA
[1] PITCAIRN
[1] REUNION
[1] SAINT LUCIA
[1] SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
[1] SEYCHELLES
[1] SURINAME
[1] SWITZERLAND
[1] TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF
[1] TOKELAU
[1] ANGUILLA
[1] ARUBA
[1] BAHAMAS
[1] BELIZE
[1] BOLIVIA
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[1] FIJI
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[1] GHANA
[1] GUADELOUPE
[1] GUATEMALA
[1] HAITI
[1] HONG KONG
[1] JAPAN
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[1] LAO PEOPLE’S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
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[1] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF
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[1] NEW CALEDONIA
[1] NICARAGUA
[1] NIUE
[1] PALAU
[1] PARAGUAY
[1] PUERTO RICO
[2] SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS
[1] SAINT MARTIN (FRENCH PART)
[1] SAMOA
[1] SOLOMON ISLANDS
[1] SWEDEN
[1] TAIWAN
[1] TOGO
[1] TONGA
GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE
FULL ACCOUNT FOR: Monomorium floricola

BIBLIOGRAPHY
15 references found for Monomorium floricola

Management information
Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

Summary: A proposal prepared for the Pacific Plant Protection Organisation and Regional Technical Meeting For Plant Protection. This plan aims to prevent the red imported fire ant and other invasive ant species with economic, environmental and/or social impacts, entering and establishing in or spreading between (or within) countries of the Pacific Region.

Sarnat, E. M. (December 4, 2008) PIAkey: Identification guide to ants of the Pacific Islands, Edition 2.0, Lucid v. 3.4, USDA/APHIS/PPQ Center for Plant Health Science and Technology and University of California - Davis.
Summary: PIAkey (Pacific Invasive Ant key) is an electronic guide designed to assist users identify invasive ant species commonly encountered in the Pacific Island region. The guide covers four subfamilies, 20 genera and 44 species. The primary tool offered by PIAkey is an interactive key designed using Lucid3 software. In addition to being fully illustrated, the Lucid key allows users to enter at multiple character points, skip unknown characters, and find the most efficient path for identifying the available taxa. Each species is linked to its own web page. These species pages, or factsheets, are linked to an illustrated glossary of morphological terms, and include the following seven sections: 1) Overview of the species; 2) Diagnostic chart illustrating a unique combination of identification characters; 3) Comparison chart illustrating differences among species of similar appearance; 4) Video clip of the species behavior at food baits (where available); 5) Image gallery that includes original specimen images and live images (where available); 6) Nomenclature section detailing the taxonomic history of the species, and 7) Links and references section for additional literature and online resources.

General information
Antweb, 2010. Monomorium floricola
Summary: AntWeb illustrates ant diversity by providing information and high quality color images of many of the approximately 10,000 known species of ants. AntWeb currently focusses on the species of the Nearctic and Malagasy biogeographic regions, and the ant genera of the world. Over time, the site is expected to grow to describe every species of ant known. AntWeb provides the following tools: Search tools, Regional Lists, In-depth information, Ant Image comparison tool PDF field guides maps on AntWeb and Google Earth and Ant genera of the world slide show. AntWeb is available from: http://antweb.org/about.jsp [Accessed 24 September 2010]
GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: Monomorium floricola


Summary: Available from:

Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS), 2010. Monomorium floricola (Jerdon, 1851)


Summary: Available from: http://midsouthentomologist.org.msstate.edu/pdfs/Vol3_2/Vol3_2_007.pdf [Accessed 26 July 2010]


