

# A generic synopsis of Ponerine ants of Nepal, with redescription of a rare endemic ant, *Emeryopone franzi* (Baroni Urbani, 1975), and new faunal records (Hymenoptera, Formicidae, Ponerinae)

IP Subedi, PB Budha, H Bharti, L Alonso

## Introduction

Ponerinae, third largest ant subfamily  
47/10 genera & 1263/13 species  
global/Nepal (Bolton, 2021; Subedi et al., 2020)  
Ponerine classification recently updated by  
Schmidt & Shattuck, 2014.  
Generic synopsis of 12 Nepalese genera  
with list of species & redescription of  
*Emeryopone franzi*.

## Materials & Methods

Ant surveys: 2006-21

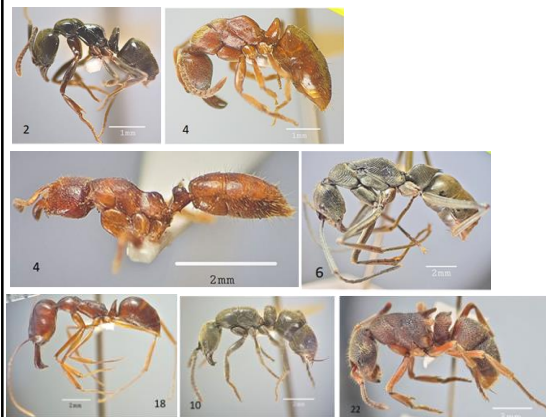
ALL Protocol - Pitfall traps, bait, beating,  
hand collection

Specimens examination & morphometry  
under stereo zoom microscope (COSLAB  
MSZ-115)

Identified using relevant keys

## Results

Generic synopsis includes  
distribution, diagnosis, ecology,  
species list for each genus.



### *Emeryopone franzi* (Baroni Urbani, 1975)



Eyes very small, antenna 12-segmented,  
with long scape, 3-segmented antennal  
club, head and body foveolate, with very  
dense punctures on cephalic dorsum. Most  
closely related to *E. buttereepeni* but differs  
by relatively larger size, longer antennal  
scape surpassing the occipital margin, and  
subpetiolar process without window.

S.N.	Ant Genus	Earliest records
1	<i>Brachyponera</i>	1961
2	<i>Buniapone</i>	2006
3	<i>Centromyrmex</i>	2015
4	<i>Diacamma</i>	≤ 1999
5	* <i>Ectomomyrmex</i>	2019
6	<i>Emeryopone</i>	1871
7	<i>Harpegnathos</i>	2006
8	* <i>Hypoconer</i>	2021
9	<i>Leptogenys</i>	1954
10	<i>Odontomachus</i>	1988
11	<i>Odontoponera</i>	2001
12	<i>Pseudoneoponera</i>	1961

## Conclusions

Twelve Ponerine  
ant genera are  
recorded.  
27 species (20  
nominal & 7  
morphospecies)  
listed.  
2 genera & 7  
species new  
records for Nepal.  
*Emeryopone  
franzi* was  
recorded 48 years  
after its first  
record based upon  
single specimen  
and redescribed  
based upon recent  
collection.

## References

- Bolton, B. (2021). An online catalogue of the ants of the World.  
<https://antcat.org/catalog/429244> [Accessed 5 December 2021]  
Schmidt, C. A., & Shattuck, S. O. (2014). The higher classification of the ant  
subfamily Ponerinae (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), with a review of Ponerine ecology  
and behavior. *Zootaxa*, 3817(1), 1-242.  
Subedi, I. P., Budha, P. B., Bharti, H., & Alonso, L. (2020). An updated checklist of  
Nepalese ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae). *ZooKeys*, 1006, 99-136.  
<https://doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.1006.58808>

## Acknowledgements

DNPWC & SNNP, CDZ,  
Sk. Yamane, Z. Yusupov, W.  
Jaitrong, A. Wachkoo, S Adhikari,  
All field assistants

Nepal map with  
collection sites

