

## NOTA / NOTE

# *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787) (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), host ant for *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923 (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae) from Morocco.

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**Abstract:** *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787) is firstly reported as a host ant for the dermestid beetle *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923 from Morocco. New locality data from Morocco are also recorded for *T. buigasi* Escalera, 1923.  
**Key words:** Hymenoptera, *Cataglyphis*, Coleoptera, *Thorictus*, Faunistics, new records, Morocco.

**Resumen:** *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787) (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), hormiga huésped de *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923 en Marruecos (Coleoptera: Dermestidae: Thorictinae). *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787) se registra por primera vez como hormiga huésped de *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923 en Marruecos. También se aportan nuevos datos de localidades de *T. buigasi* Escalera, 1923 en Marruecos.  
**Palabras clave:** Hymenoptera, *Cataglyphis*, Coleoptera, *Thorictus*, Faunistics, new records, Morocco.

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## Introduction

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The dermestid genus *Thorictus* Germar, 1834 currently includes 165 species and subspecies known from the Palaearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions (Háva 2012). Host ants are known for 42 species and all these species are myrmecophiles and hosts of various ant genus (Háva 2012).

Here we present *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787) as a new host ant for the species *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923 recorded for the first time from Morocco.

## Results

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### *Thorictus buigasi* Escalera, 1923

**Material examined:** Morocco, Marrakesh (31°41'50.8"N, 7°59'17.2"W, 420 m), 5.V.2012, A. Lenoir leg., 2 spec., in coll. J. Háva. Two colonies were dug, one with 5 beetles; Ait Ourir near Marrakech (31°32'40.8N, 7°38'55.3"W, 710 m), 6.V.2012, A. Lenoir coll. Three colonies were dug, with 0, 3 and 15 beetles.

**Distribution:** This species was already known from just one locality in Morocco: Essaouira (called Mogador in John 1965, Kocher 1969). With these two new localities, the species seems to be located in South Morocco.

**Biology:** The specimens of *Thorictus buigasi* were collected in the field, on the heads of *Cataglyphis viatica* workers (see Háva & Lenoir, 2008). They clutch on the host ant antennae with their mandibles (Figs. 1 & 2).

### *Cataglyphis viatica* (Fabricius, 1787)

**Material examined:** Morocco, Marrakesh, 5-6.V.2012, A. Lenoir, Xim Cerdá, A. Dahbi leg.; Ait Ourir near Marrakech (31°32'40.8N, 7°38'55.3"W, 710m), 6.V.2012, A. Lenoir coll., more specimens in coll. Université François Rabelais, Faculté des Sciences.

**Distribution:** This species is known from North Africa and Middle East (Bolton *et al.* 2007). It is a new host ant for the myrmecophilous beetle species *Thorictus buigasi*.

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Figs. 1 & 2.- *Thorictus buigasi* on the head of *Cataglyphis viatica*. (photos Fernando Amor)



**Appendix 1.** - List of *Thorictus* species with hosts of genre *Cataglyphis* (Hetschko & Wasmann 1925; Hetschko 1926, 1930; Háva & Lenoir 2008; and Zhantiev 2011).

Species	Host ant *
<b>"castaneus species group"</b>	
<i>Thorictus bonnairei bonnairei</i> Wasmann, 1894	<i>Cataglyphis bicolor</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Thorictus bonnairei nigroides</i> Wasmann, 1925	<i>Cataglyphis bicolor</i> (Fabricius, 1793)
<i>Thorictus buigasi</i> Escalera, 1923	<i>Cataglyphis viatica</i> (Fabricius, 1787), <b>new record</b>
<i>Thorictus castaneus castaneus</i> Germar, 1834	<i>Cataglyphis bombycinus</i> (Roger, 1859), <i>C. diehlii</i> (Forel, 1902)
<i>Thorictus foreli</i> Wasmann, 1894	<i>Cataglyphis bicolor</i> var. <i>megalocola</i> (Foerster, 1850), <i>C. hispanica</i> (Emery, 1906), <i>C. altisquamis</i> (André, 1881)
<i>Thorictus foveicollis</i> Reitter, 1880	<i>Cataglyphis cursor</i> (Fonscolombe, 1846), <i>C. aenescens</i> (Nylander, 1849)
<i>Thorictus gibbosus</i> Zhantiev, 2010	<i>Cataglyphis setipes</i> (Forel, 1894), <i>C. foreli</i> (Ruzsky, 1903)
<i>Thorictus manni</i> Reichenspenger, 1926	<i>Cataglyphis</i> sp.
<i>Thorictus martinezi</i> Háva & Lenoir, 2008	<i>Cataglyphis</i> sp. nov.
<i>Thorictus medvedevi</i> Zhantiev, 2010	<i>Cataglyphis setipes</i> (Forel, 1894)
<i>Thorictus pauciseta</i> Wasmann, 1894	<i>Cataglyphis viatica</i> (Fabricius, 1787) (= <i>bicolor desertorum</i> (Forel, 1894))
<i>Thorictus pilosus</i> Peyron, 1857	<i>Cataglyphis diehlii</i> (Forel, 1902)
<i>Thorictus puncticollis</i> Lucas, 1846	<i>Cataglyphis altisquamis</i> (André, 1881)
<i>Thorictus sulcicollis</i> Pérez Arcas, 1868	<i>Cataglyphis hispanica</i> (Emery, 1906)
<b>"orientalis species group"</b>	
<i>Thorictus bifoveolatus</i> Reitter, 1887	<i>Cataglyphis aenescens</i> (Nylander, 1849)
<i>Thorictus fairmairii fairmairii</i> Raffray in Fairmaire & Raffray, 1873	<i>Cataglyphis albicans</i> (Roger, 1859)
<i>Thorictus grandicollis grandicollis</i> Germar, 1842	<i>Cataglyphis cursor</i> (Fonscolombe, 1846)
<i>Thorictus kaznakovi</i> R. Schmidt, 1904	<i>Cataglyphis aenescens</i> (Nylander, 1849)
<i>Thorictus koenigi</i> Reitter, 1887	<i>Cataglyphis aenescens</i> (Nylander, 1849)
<i>Thorictus lederi</i> Reitter, 1881	<i>Cataglyphis cursor</i> (Fonscolombe, 1846)
<i>Thorictus myrmecophilus</i> Reitter, 1881	<i>Cataglyphis</i> sp.
<i>Thorictus postangulis</i> Reitter, 1895	<i>Cataglyphis aenescens</i> (Nylander, 1849)
<i>Thorictus ruzskii</i> Semenov-Tian-Shanskiy, 1903	<i>Cataglyphis setipes</i> (Forel, 1894)

\* other host ants have not yet been reported.