Russian Journal of Herpetology 18(1): 39-46

Ambushing the Supply Line: A Report on Anolis Sagrei Predation on Ants in Chiayi County, Taiwan

Norva, Gerrut; Hsiao, Wen-Feng; Lin, Chung-Chi; Huang, Shao-Chang

Abstract

502 brown anoles (Anolis sagrei) were collected for stomach content analysis from an area surrounding a plant nursery (23°25'51" N 120°28'30" E) in Santzepu, Sheishan District, Chiayi County, as part of an ongoing study on this invasive species. The stomachs of 240 lizards contained ants, which were isolated for identification to establish a basis upon which future studies on ant predation by A. sagrei in Taiwan can be based. These ants comprised of 1428 individuals from 5 subfamilies, of which the majority belonged to Myrmicinae. The species, Pheidole megacephala made up the largest proportion of ants (66.9%), followed by Pheidole pieli (27.14%), Tapinoma indicum (1.54%), Solenopsis geminata (1.33%), and Polyrhachis illaudata (1.19%). The remaining species individually made up less than 1% of the ants collected from the lizards' stomachs.

Key words : Norops sagrei; Japalura swinhonis; Competition; Ambush predator; Invasive species