

# Crematogaster scutellaris

(Olivier, 1792)

## Acrobat ant

Raises its heart-shaped gaster when disturbed and loves nesting in wood.



### At a glance



NEST TEMPERATURE

**21–25 °C**

In the nest



NEST HUMIDITY

**50–60 %**

In the nest



HIBERNATION

**8–12 °C**

Oct – Mar



NUPTIAL FLIGHTS

**Aug – Oct**



WORKERS

**3–5 mm**

All the same size



QUEEN

**7–9 mm**

One queen



COLONY SIZE

**Reaches 1,000 workers**

Growth: Very fast



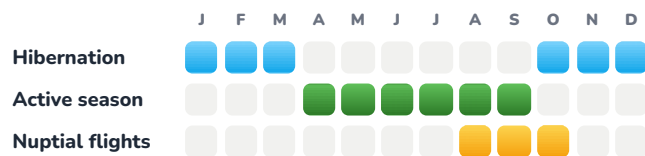
ESCAPE RISK

**Medium**

Keep an escape barrier on the outworld



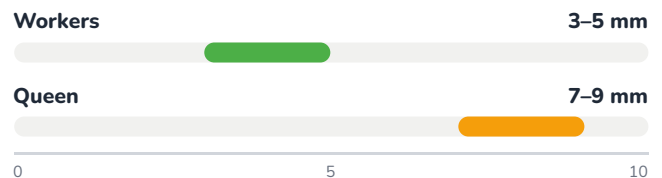
### Year at a glance



Months for temperate Europe and the Mediterranean. The weather decides the exact days, so flights can come earlier or later where you live.



### Sizes on the same scale



### Care at a glance

#### FOOD

Sugar

Insects

#### BEST NESTS

1. Wooden nest
2. Ytong nest
3. Acrylic nest

#### WHY THIS RATING

- ✓ Fully claustral: the queen needs no food until her first workers arrive
- ⚠ Curious workers: keep an escape barrier on the outworld
- ⚠ Grows very fast and needs plenty of protein and space



### From my colonies

#### TIP

A wooden nest is the natural choice for this species: they love nesting in wood, and a wooden nest needs no watering and very little maintenance.

#### WATCH OUT

When they feel threatened they release a strong-smelling defensive venom, so give the outworld plenty of ventilation holes or a lid that is easy to remove. In a big colony the smell can build up and stress the whole colony.