

ADVANCED · 7/7

KEPT BY BRUMA

Pheidole pallidula

(Nylander, 1849)

Big-headed ant

Tiny minors, big-headed majors and a real talent for escaping.



At a glance



NEST TEMPERATURE

21–28 °C

In the nest



NEST HUMIDITY

60–70 %

In the nest



HIBERNATION

12–16 °C

Nov – Mar



NUPTIAL FLIGHTS

May – Aug



WORKERS

2–4 mm

majors up to 6 mm



QUEEN

7–8 mm

One or more queens



COLONY SIZE

Reaches 1,000 workers

Growth: Very fast



ESCAPE RISK

High

Escape artists: use a closed outworld and a good barrier



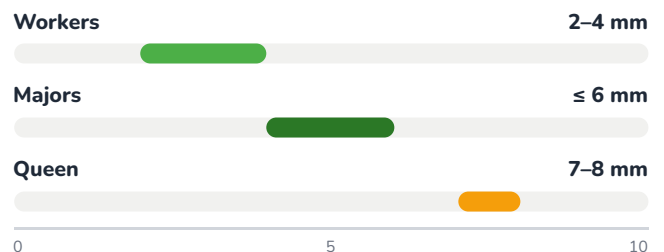
Year at a glance



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

Seeds

BEST NESTS

1. Acrylic nest
2. Naturalistic setup

WHY THIS RATING

- ✓ Fully claustral: the queen needs no food until her first workers arrive
- ✓ Stores seeds, so a missed feeding is not a problem
- ⚠ A real escape artist that needs an escape-proof setup
- ⚠ Grows very fast and needs plenty of protein and space



From my colonies

TIP

Offer a few small seeds next to the sugar and insects: the big-headed majors crack them open so the whole colony can eat the soft part inside.

WATCH OUT

They are notorious escape artists and the minors are tiny, so use a tightly layered acrylic nest, or an enclosure with no gaps between its parts for a naturalistic setup.

All values are starting points: watch your colony and adjust. Full sheet with sources and FAQ:

brumaants.com/species/pheidole-pallidula

