# Lasius emarginatus

RED GARDEN ANT

# **QUICK DESCRIPTION**

Lasius emarginatus is a **small-sized fastgrowing species of ant**, Very similar to Lasis niger, this species can be effortlessly recognized by its characteristic reddish thorax, very visible in the workers and the queens.

## DISTRIBUTION

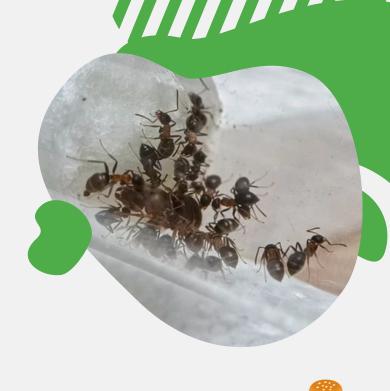
Lasius emarginatus is **extremely common in Europe**, where it fills the yards of every house on the continent. They like to nest **under sidewalks**, **in gardens**, and **between the cracks in the walls**.

#### TEMPERATURE

Lasius emarginatus is very adaptable, and can easily be kept at room temperature. If you wanna speed up the colony development a bit, the ideal temperature would be **between 21 and 27 degrees Celsius**. If you live in a cold area or you usually use an air conditioner in the room your ants are in, maybe **a heat mat could be a useful ally**.

#### HUMIDITY

When it comes to humidity levels, Lasius emarginatus doesn't have extreme demands. They like a range of moisture levels that go from 50% to 60%. If you notice that your nest dries out too quickly, you may have to consider changing the setup a bit.



## FOOD

Lasius emarginatus loves every type of highsugar food. **Honey, fruit, sugar water, ant jellies, jams...** They go crazy for them! As the protein source, you can give them almost every type of insect. In the wild they usually eat **crickets, different types of worms, fruit flies**, and **spiders**. In a nutshell, everything they find on their path!

#### **HIBERNATION**

Lasius emarginatus needs hibernation. They hibernate through the winter, **from around late October to early March**. For this species, the ideal temperature for hibernation is **between 5 and 8 degrees Celsius**.

## **NEST TYPE**



In my opinion, one of the best options when it comes to choosing a formicarium for Lasius emarginatus, is **a very basic but effective Ytong nest!** Other valid alternatives for housing this species are a more classic **sandwich nest**, and a more modern **acrylic nest**.

