

LASIUS EMARGINATUS COLONY JOURNAL

12 July 2009

I got these ants last week from Antstore. They are found in Southern Europe and look very much like *Lasius niger* except that they have black heads, black abdomens and red thoraxes, making them look like a cross between *Lasius niger* and *Formica rufa*. The workers are similar in size to *Lasius niger* but the emarginatus queen seems to be larger than her niger cousin. They are currently still in their test-tube which has been attached to the side of a nesting box. They have built a wall of sand within the test tube to protect the queen. They seem even scattier than *Lasius niger*!