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Ameisen – einfach nur lästig oder eine reale Gefahr für Schildkröten?

Ants – just inconvenient or a real danger for tortoises

Abstract

Hatchlings of *Testudo horsfieldii* are kept in a cold frame with integrated outdoor enclosure. A colony of the Black garden ant, *Lasius niger*, settled unnoticed in it. Though usually ants are not problematic for tortoises, in this case one tortoise was seriously hurt. Possible reasons, as well as unfavourable circumstances that led to this result are discussed. Methods to reduce or destroy the nest of the ants are presented.

Key words

Testudines: Testudinidae, predators in captivity, Formicidae *Lasius niger*

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