CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bullet Ant

Paraponera clavata

The bullet ant is named for a sting that people describe as being shot. It sits at the very top of the Schmidt sting pain index, and Justin Schmidt's own description — pure, intense, brilliant pain, …

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Formicidae
Habitat: Tropical rainforest
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 1-2 years
Weight: 0.03-0.05 g
Scientific name: Paraponera clavata

Did you know?

- The pain from a bullet ant sting is so severe that it's been compared to being shot, which is how the ant got its common name.
- Its sting tops the Schmidt pain index at the maximum rating — pain that comes in waves for up to 24 hours. The venom, poneratoxin, jams the sodium ch…

What I learned

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