

RED IMPORTED FIRE ANT STOP THIS INVADER

These ants will cause harm to you, your crops and your environment. If you find any of these ants, contact your local biosecurity/quarantine

IN THE PACIFIC

Solenopsis invicta

Size: 2-6mm



bites



stings



harms
crops



harms
people



harms
wildlife



lives on
ground



day
active



different
sizes



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What they look like

- reddish-brown body, black abdomen
- very aggressive and sting many times when disturbed
- workers (the ants you see) in many sizes 2-6 mm long
- queens (live in the nest) are much larger than workers
- new queens have wings and are sometimes seen outside
- builds mounds up to 40 cm high with no visible entrance
- Sometimes mounds are small

Problems they cause

- kill small animals like crabs, birds & lizards
- painful sting can cause allergic reaction
- reduce agricultural productivity
- make it difficult to farm (stinging)
- mounds interfere with farm equipment
- hard to eradicate (get rid of)

Where they live

- build mounds in places like
- gardens, parks
 - fields, pastures
 - beaches

How they travel

- hidden in
- wooden containers
 - soil, compost, mulch, sand, gravel
 - rubbish
 - machinery, vehicles