## **Pest Profile**



Photo credit: USDA APHIS PPQ - Imported Fire Ant Station, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Red imported fire ant

Scientific Name: Solenopsis invicta

Order and Family: Hymenoptera, Formicidae

**Size and Appearance:** 

	Adult	Egg	Larvae/ Nymph	Pupae
Length (mm)	2 – 6 mm			
Appearance	Red- black	white	white	white

## Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing

**Host plant/s:** Plants are affected close to a mound, such as a soybean crops, corn, okra, bean, cabbage, cucumber, eggplant, potato, sweet potato, peanut, sorghum, and sunflower.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** The ants frequently invade soybean crops and cause considerable damage to many agricultural crops. Red imported fire ants are also well known for their intense venomous sting.

## **References:**

Collins, Laura, and Rudolf H. Scheffrahn. "Red Imported Fire Ant - Solenopsis Invicta." *Red Imported Fire Ant - Solenopsis Invicta*. University of Florida, 1 Jan. 2001. Web. 01 Feb. 2016. <a href="http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/ants/red\_imported\_fire\_ant.htm">http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/ants/red\_imported\_fire\_ant.htm</a>.

Greenberg, L., and J. N. Kabashima. "How to Manage Pests." *Red Imported Fire Ant Management Guidelines--UC IPM*. UC ANR, Dec. 2013. Web. 01 Feb. 2016. <a href="http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7487.html">http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7487.html</a>.

"Invasive Species: Animals - Red Imported Fire Ant (Solenopsis Invicta)." *Invasive Species: Animals - Red Imported Fire Ant (Solenopsis Invicta)*. N.p., 12 Jan. 2016. Web. 31 Jan. 2016. <a href="http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/animals/rifa.shtml">http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/animals/rifa.shtml</a>.