

## Pest Profile



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**Common Name:** Field Ant

**Scientific Name:** *Formica* spp.

**Order and Family:** Hymenoptera, Formicidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1mm or less	Small white spindle shaped, like a small piece of rice, usually not found outside the nest.
Larva/Nymph	1mm – 4mm	Tiny wormlike appearance, no eyes or legs, usually not found outside the nest.
Adult	3mm to 9.5mm	Black to black-red, red, brown or sometimes tan. Two 12 segmented elbowed antennae, the first segment elongate. Head has 3 simple ocelli (simple eyes) that form a triangle between the eyes. Abdomen has a ring of hair around the tip where formic acid is released to kill plant roots as well as produce a threat response. Queen and male ants possess wings, worker ants do not.
Pupa (if applicable)	3mm – 9.5mm	

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

**Host plant/s:** Generally builds mounds in exposed soil in lawns, gardens, and forests. Eats aphid honeydew, seed husks, and small soft bodied arthropods such as Gypsy Moth larvae.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** No damage from feeding. Can create mounds 3 to 4 feet wide and 2 feet in height, making it impossible for turf to grow in that area. Also creates hazards when moving through un-mowed fields and maintaining lawns or other turf areas.

**References:**

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