

Black House Ant (*Ochetellus glaber*) Profile



Pest Status

- Native to Australia.
- Will invade buildings.
- One of the few ant species that will nest indoors.
- Infests electrical items.
- Will tend aphids in trees.

Description

- Small (2.0 - 2.5mm long). Shiny black or dark brown in colour.
- Single sized workers (monomorphic).
- No bite or sting.
- Has a smell when crushed (mixed reporting on this).

Nesting

- They can nest on the ground under objects, or in trees (sometimes house).
- Will enter indoors, usually via infested trees touching the house.
- Able to spread by budding off.

Feeding

- Prefers sweet foods but will also eat other insects and seeds.
- They forage in trees, feeding on insects, honeydew and nectar.

Treatment (*IPM approach*):

- Bait foraging trails.
- Direct nest application (liquid and/or granules).
- Building perimeter (liquid) to prevent ingress.
- Internal C&C to harbourages (aerosol/dust) + bait.
- Hygiene & exclusion.

All products in the FMC general pest range carry an ant registration. Notably Biflex® Mikron and Astro® also have HACCP approval while along with Biflex® Ultra, Biflex® Aqua and Fury® are registered for internal use. Externally Brigade® Granular is a popular option around perimeters, paved and lawn areas and Dragnet® Dust offers an excellent option for roof voids and wall cavities.

For further information please contact your local FMC representative or visit fmcaustralasia.com.au