

White-footed Ant (*Technomyrmex jocosus*) Profile



Pest Status

- *T. jocosus* (native) and *T. albipes* (introduced).
- Prefer to nest outdoors (trees etc) but one of the few ant species able to nest indoors.
- Often found indoors in roof and wall spaces, electrical equipment, rolled up awnings and pot plants.

Description

- Small (3.0 - 3.5mm long). Dark brown to black with white tarsi (feet).
- Single sized workers (monomorphic).
- Unusual habit of huddling in groups.
- Workers walk with abdomen raised.
- No bite or sting.

Nesting

- They are primarily above ground nesters (internal & external).
- Forms interconnected super-colonies.
- Multi-queened (polygynous) and able to spread by budding off.

Feeding

- Prefers sweet foods but considered omnivorous (sugar, protein & fats/oils).
- They forage in trees, feeding on honeydew and nectar (tends aphids).

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