

## PHARAOH ANTS

Pharaoh Ants are smaller than the normal Garden Ant, and prefer warmer, humid environments. Pharaoh Ants are yellow in colour, and can be usually found inside buildings rather than outside.

Pharaoh Ants tend to pose a health risk as they feed in unhygienic places such as drains, refuse bins etc. and can pass on harmful germs

Pharaoh ants live in colonies which can vary in size, and can be difficult to treat. Treatment should be carried out by professional pest control officers.



**Please be advised that we are not responsible for any injury or damage caused where persons carry out treatment themselves. Ensure you follow the manufacturers instructions carefully when using any product.**

**Keep any insecticide away from children and animals and ensure it is stored safely. Any Pest Controller should be suitably qualified.**

### Where to Get Further Advice?

**PUBLIC PROTECTION SERVICES  
TOWN HALL  
DUKE STREET  
BARROW-IN-FURNESS  
CUMBRIA  
LA14 2LD**

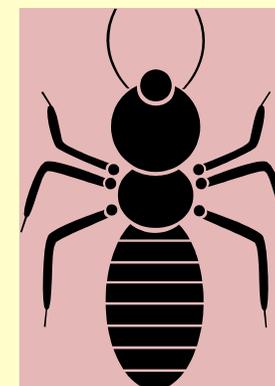
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## ADVICE TO HOUSEHOLDERS

# ANTS



**Barrow Borough Council  
Public Protection Services**

## ADVICE TO HOUSEHOLDERS

### CONTROL OF GARDEN ANTS

Few species which nest outdoors are likely to enter houses regularly except for the black ant. Ants are active insects which nest outside in grass walls and under paving. Although Black Ants cause a nuisance, they do not bite or sting. They will forage widely in search of food, which is how it comes to enter domestic premises.

### BEHAVIOUR AND LIFE CYCLE

Garden ants build large nests, where the queen ant remains and lays eggs. The worker ants build the nest and forage for food. Ants feed on sweet substances such as plant nectar and aphids, as well as sugary foods often found in the house. In gardens their excavations around plant roots make the soil excessively dry. They can also be beneficial as predators of other insects and scavengers. They are unpleasant and may damage food for human consumption.

Flying ants occur in late June to September. They emerge from the nest in large number, and swarm for 2-3 hours. Flying ants will usually disappear within 24-48 hours.

### CONTROL MEASURES FOR GARDEN ANTS

#### a) Hygiene Management

Although frequently inaccessible and difficult to destroy, the nest must be eradicated to control the infestation. The nests of black ants can be located by following their trails. You should identify potential food sources and protect these from attack. Place any food items in sealed containers, and wipe out any affected cupboards or spillages.

#### b) Insecticidal Control

Products come in various forms such as powder, spray or gel, and can be purchased from DIY and general stores. Follow manufacturers instructions with care.

Insecticidal treatments can be applied in and around the nest and should aim to ensure that a residual film is left at strategic points e.g. points of entry to buildings e.g. doors, windows, ventilators, ducts and drains. Wall/floor junctions, ant runs and all other harbourages should be treated according to the label instructions. Particular attention should be given to small insignificant cracks which may be major points of entry for ants.

A crawling insect spray treatment can be used, but can be strong smelling and may cause staining of surfaces, so may not be advisable indoors.

Aerosols are good for spraying into cracks and awkward gaps. **Do not use aerosols in food preparation areas or kitchen cupboards.**

Outdoor ant nests can be treated with boiling hot water. A flying insect spray can be used for flying ants if causing a particular nuisance.

### Identification

#### Black Ants



#### Red Ants



#### Flying Ants

