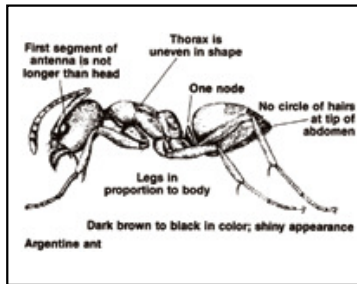


## IDENTIFICATION

*Linepithema humile*

- Workers are monomorphic, 1/8-inch long
- Dark brown to black, body surface is smooth and shiny
- One node on petiole, sting is absent
- Thorax uneven when viewed from side
- 12-segmented antenna has no club
- Musty odor emitted when crushed



*The Argentine ant is dark brown to black and the body surface is smooth and shiny.*

## DISTRIBUTION



## COLONIES

Each Argentine ant nest typically contains multiple queens. Colony castes include queens, workers (sterile females) and winged reproductive males. Colony propagates by “budding” which occurs when one or more queens leave with a group of workers and establish a new site. Argentine ant nests within an area are functionally interconnected. Workers from different nests cooperate together as one super colony. This gives them a distinct advantage over native ants in that nests share resources, instead of competing for them. Millions of ants per colony with many sub-colonies are common. When Argentine ant colonies are eliminated from an area, the area can be quickly repopulated by ants from neighboring properties. Its’ ability to adapt for survival is noteworthy.



*Common nest sites for the Argentine ant includes soil beneath lumber, slabs, debris, bricks, mulch logs and stones. They also can be found in branches and cavities of trees and shrubs.*

## BEHAVIOR

- Argentine ants have been known to crawl onto people and bite them while sleeping, but it’s the sheer number of these ants that is generally most upsetting to most homeowners.
- They travel rapidly in trails.
  - Outside: along sidewalks, up sides of buildings, along branches of trees and shrubs
  - Inside: along baseboards and under edges of carpets and in voids
- They forage for sweets such as fresh fruit, buds of some plants and honeydew
- They often tend honeydew-producing species (aphids, scale insects and whiteflies) to protect this very important food resource.

## COMMON NEST SITES

- In soil beneath lumber, slabs, debris, bricks, mulch, logs, stones
- Shallow, 1 to 2-inch deep mounds in open, often disturbed habitats, either moist or dry
- In branches and cavities of trees and shrubs
- Utility boxes
- Indoors in voids

## USE THE SMARTCAP™ ADVANTAGE AGAINST ARGENTINE ANTS

- Long-lasting SmartCap microencapsulation – Keeping Argentine ants at bay requires a product that will hold up in harsh environments for long periods of time. Studies have shown Cy-Kick® CS to control Argentine ants on mulch and concrete surfaces beyond 90 days.
- Low phytotoxicity – Thorough treatment for Argentine ants requires treatment to a variety of areas and surfaces including trees and shrub beds. Cy-Kick CS is well suited for these applications due to its low phytotoxicity.



*Cy-Kick CS smartcaps cling to Argentine ants as they crawl across treated surfaces.*

## CY-KICK CS CONTROL TIPS

- Treat areas associated with trailing behavior such as
  - Edges along driveways
  - Sidewalks
  - Pathways
  - Retaining walls
  - Landscape timbers
  - Other trailing guidelines
- Treat plant beds where ants may be feeding on honeydew from scale insects
- Search for and drench soil nest sites (there may be many)
  - Beneath debris
  - In soil mounds
  - Under thick layers of mulch
- Treat cracks and crevices around window frames, door frames, pipe openings

## RECOMMENDED DILUTION RATE

Indoors, apply with hand tank at 0.05 or 0.1% (1-2 oz per gallon water)

Outdoors, apply 0.5 to 1.0 oz per 1,000 square feet OR:

Oz of Cy-Kick CS	Per Gallon of Water	% Dilution
1.2-2.4 oz	15 gallons	0.0038-0.0075%
2-4 oz	25 gallons	0.0038-0.0075%
4-8 oz	50 gallons	0.0038-0.0075%
8-16 oz	100 gallons	0.0038-0.0075%

*(See label for complete use directions.)*

*Tip: Use high rate during spring and summer when ants are most active, then reduce to lower rate during fall and winter for maintenance.*

## OTHER PRODUCT CONTROL TIPS

- Make dust applications with Perma-Dust® Pressurized Boric Acid Dust to voids in walls and brick veneer.
- Bait with Advance® 375A Select Granular Ant Bait along borders of infested adjacent properties and interior voids of the home.



## GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Feeding sites, trails and nesting sites change frequently; so careful inspection to determine activity sites is critical.

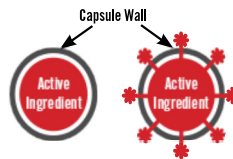
## HOMEOWNER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reduce clutter that may be suitable as a nesting site
- Keep bushes/trees trimmed back from house 2 feet
- Use pea gravel around foundation instead of organic mulch materials
- Avoid plastic weed barrier sheeting in planter beds
- Caulk windows doors, seal pipe openings and use other appropriate exclusion measures

## SMARTCAP TECHNOLOGY



Exclusive SmartCap Technology creates a shell around the active ingredient cyfluthrin that increases residual control by protecting it from UV light, weather, porous and greasy surfaces and absorption into soil or organic matter. It also acts as a barrier to diminish exposure to humans and pets while reducing plant phytotoxicity and staining.



*The capsule wall protects the a.i. from surface conditions and the environment. The a.i. diffuses quickly out of the capsule when in contact with an insect's exoskeleton.*