

Crazy Ants

QUICK STATS:

Color: Dark brown to black with gray sheen

Shape: Segmented, extremely long legs and antennae

Size: 1/16 to 1/8 inch long



OVERVIEW

Crazy ants get their common name from the workers' habit of running in an erratic, jerky manner when searching for food.

HABITS

Crazy ants feed primarily on live and dead insects, seeds, fruits and honeydew. They enter homes in the autumn or after rainfall because both conditions reduce their supply of honeydew. Inside, crazy ants usually nest underneath floors or carpeting, in potted plants and in wall voids. Outdoors, their nests are shallow and commonly found in soil under objects or next to foundations. Crazy ants are highly adaptable, nesting in both dry and moist habitats.

THREATS

Crazy ants do not pose a health threat, but if they gain entry to a structure they can become a nuisance.

PREVENTION

- Trim vegetation away from your home to prevent pathways inside.
- Seal all cracks and crevices around the outside of your home, including around doors and windows.
- Food spills and other potential attractants should be cleaned up as soon as possible.
- If you suspect you have a crazy ant infestation, contact a licensed pest professional, Pest Guard Limited.

DID YOU KNOW? Crazy Ants

- are found throughout and are confined to the indoors because they cannot survive the winter outdoors.
- are known to completely abandon one nesting site and move to another.
- usually live in small colonies, composed of up to 2,000 workers, but larger colonies of more than 10,000 ants have also been found in debris piles and mulch beds.