



A-1 Pest Control Limited Since 1969
P.O. Box 35062
London, Ontario N5W 5Z6
(519) 455-8840 OR 1-800-265-1082
www.a1pestcontrol.ca

PHARAOH ANTS - *Monomorium pharaonis*

Complete Metamorphosis – Egg, Larva, Pupa, and Adult

Pharaoh ants are small, yellow to light brown ants. The workers are only around 2 mm in length with the queen being larger at 3-4 mm long. They have two nodes and the workers are all one size. It is often confused with the thief ant, which is also a small, yellow, two node ant. The pharaoh ant's antenna has 12 segments and ends in a three-segmented club. The thief ant's antenna has 10 segments and a two-segmented club. The wingless worker ants are the most common adults seen. There are three types of adults: queens, males, and workers. Pharaoh ants are social insects living in colonies. These colonies can grow to contain as many as 300,000 workers and many queens. The queens are very mobile and so are the colonies. Only about 5 percent of a colony's workers are out foraging for food at any one time. Pharaoh ants are a public health pest and can be difficult to control.

Nest locations often include inside wall voids, behind moldings, insulation of appliances, inside hollow curtain and shower rods and expansion joints in concrete slabs. Pharaoh ants travel along plumbing and wiring and have been found in electrical and switch outlets. They can be a major problem in residences, apartments, rest homes, hospitals and commercial buildings.

Indoor treatments with residual insecticides will not eliminate an infestation. By attempting to kill these ants with a spray, the remaining 95 percent of the workers will become stressed. These ants will then split into two or more new colonies. This splitting of colonies among Pharaoh and Argentine ants is known as *budding*. Pharaoh ant elimination can only be accomplished through an extensive indoor baiting program. Baits must be placed in every area where ants are known to forage. Once baits have been placed it can take up to several weeks to see significant reduction in the number of ants.

A-1 Pest Control recommends Avert™ 360A Bait in its IPM approach to control this insect problem.

Warning : Contains the allergen peanut butter

Pre and post treatment instructions

Prior to treatment clean your home to remove all food sources such as pet food, sweet spills, dead insects and garbage. Keep all food in sealed containers. Ants like water, so repair any leaking plumbing. Do not treat your unit with any aerosol, spray or dust insecticides prior to or following treatment. **The use of strong smelling cleansers such as Mr. Clean, Pine-Sol, and bleach should also be avoided.** These products will contaminate the bait and split the colonies, making control difficult. Air fresheners and scented candles may also reduce the effectiveness of the bait station. Please leave stations in place for a period of 6 months to a year.