

How to Identify Argentine Ants

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- The ants go through 3 stages before becoming adults: egg, larva and pupa. In all three of these stages the ants are smaller and white in color

- Can be found following well defined trails

- They are attracted to sweet food and are extremely persistent, in South America it is known as the Sugar Ant

- They are likely to invade homes in the summer months or during winter, just after rains

- Argentine ants are a versatile species that can easily adapt to its environment

- They will randomly search for food, when food is found other ants will follow a scent trail. This forms an easily recognizable trail of ants

- The ants can be found around the world, they've spread from South America to every continent except Antarctica.

- They were first introduced to the U.S. through New Orleans in the 1880s

- In the United States, they have become a problem in Louisiana and California

A picture showing trails of ants along the side of a building



<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Argentine Ants are small and brown•Workers are between 2.2mm and 2.8mm in length•The ants have segmented body with three sections•The sections consist of the head, thorax and gaster•When crushed they emit a musty or greasy odor, as opposed to native ants that have no odor or one that is spicy, pungent or sweetish•Outdoors, in areas of severe infestation, they can be seen forming trails on trees, streets, fences and houses



A diagram showing the ants' segmented body, with labels