

What is the Little Fire Ant?

Wasmannia auropunctata
or the Little Fire Ant
(LFA) is another
invasive species
spreading across Guam.

These stinging ants
infest yards, houses
and forests. Their
powerful stings harm
people and wildlife.
LFA can sting the eyes,
leading to blindness in
pets.

LFA infestations
negatively impact the
economy by damaging
crops and reducing food
production. Parks and
hiking trails become
inhospitable to
residents and visitors.

Movement of LFA is
facilitated by people.
LFA infestations arise
from sharing of
infected potted plants
and disposal of
infected green waste.

Detect-Report-Stop Little Fire Ants

DETECT

Location for dropping
off or mailing
samples:

GU Department of
Agriculture - Plant
Inspection Facility
17-3306 Neptune Ave.
Barrigada, GU 96913

REPORT

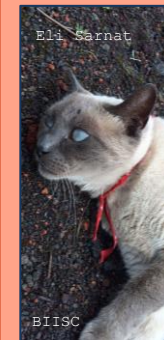
Report suspected LFA
to Dept. of
Agriculture,
Biosecurity Division
at
475-PEST(7378).

STOP

For LFA control
information call
475-PEST(7378)
-or-
visit:
stoplfa.guam.gov

This brochure was adapted from an
APHIS-USDA and Hawaii-DOA LFA brochure.

Little Fire Ant



Detect-Report-Stop

Protect Your Island

Detect:

Supplies: peanut butter, disposable chopsticks, zip top bags, and a pen.



1. Place sticks with a thin smear of peanut butter* every feet in and around plants in your yard, garden, and lanai. Focus on shady, moist areas, the bottoms of pots, and where plants' leaves meet the stem.

**Regular peanut butter, not natural or fat free.*

***For those with a peanut allergy, use pieces of luncheon meat.*

2. Leave the sticks in place for 1 hour during the cool part of the day.

3. Check sticks without moving them.



Collect the stick if:

- The ants are uniformly orange/red and VERY small.
- You are unsure about the ants.

4. Very carefully place it directly into the bag (so ants don't fall off).

5. Seal the bag, label it with your name, address and phone number, and put it in your freezer

VIDEO: "How to Survey for LFA" at <http://vimeo.com/97558997>

Report:

Call the Dept. of Agriculture Invasive Species Hotline at:
475-PEST (7378).

How to identify LFA:



- Tiny ants: 1/16 inch
- Orange-red in color
- Slow-moving

versus Tropical Fire Ants:



- Common larger stinging ant
- Builds ground nests in sunny, dry areas.
- An entire LFA colony can fit in macadamia nut shell



LFA don't form mounds. They nest in moist, shady areas, in trees, under tree bark, under rocks, within logs, in mulch & in green waste.