



## COMMAND PEST CONTROL

### Information sheet number 9 - The Garden or Black Ant



#### **Appearance:**

2 to 3 mm, shiny black, elbowed feelers, large head, slender mid section, they also have characteristic waist and long legs.

#### **Breeding:**

The Queen Ant lays a variable number of eggs, 3 to 4 weeks later legless grubs hatch, 3 weeks later larvae mature, 2 weeks after pupation adult ants emerge. Late summer winged and mature males leave nest ant mate and the males die whilst the females find new nest sites. Many thousands of ants live in a nest in a social group tending to various jobs.

#### **Food:**

Sweet spillages indoors but outside of human habitations they may find a wide food range including much organic matter.

#### **Where do Garden ants live?**

A wide range of locations, ant colonies can sometimes be in close proximity to human dwellings, entering buildings to forage for food. Sometimes nests can be found well inside buildings with the ants exploiting proofing defects such as cracks in the building fabric.

#### **Diseases:**

No diseases are passed to man or animals by this species.

#### **Damage:**

They cause no damage apart from nesting in sandy areas sometimes beneath paving slabs where they might excavate small workings.

**For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049**