



Pavement ant worker (J. Berger/IPM Images)



Winged pavement ant



Pavement ant mounds in
pavement seams

Pavement Ants

Typical Location When Observed: Pavement ant mounds are commonly observed under pavement, in pavement cracks or under rocks.

Importance/Damage: Pavement ants may enter the home in search of food. Mounds may be unsightly in pavement or landscaping.

Distinguishing Features: Pavement ants are small (1/10 to 1/16 inch), dark brown ants. Fine grooves on the head are visible under magnification.

Look-Alikes: Cornfield ants, odorous house ants, pharaoh ants

General Life History and Habits: Pavement ants produce small mounds of soil at entrances of their nest, generally located under pavement or rocks. Pavement ants forage a wide variety of foods, usually consistently preferring greasy materials. Feeding habits shift during the season with higher protein materials being sought when young are being reared and sugars more favored at other times.

Resources: More details may be found in Extension Fact Sheet 5.518, *Ants in the Home*.

Scientific Name: *Tetramorium caespitum*

Order: Hymenoptera (ants, bees, sawflies, wasps)

Family: Formicidae (ants)

Actual Length
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