

Article

New detections of red imported fire ants has been found in **St Lucia, Fairfield and Holland Park West**.

The fire ants were reported to Biosecurity Queensland by vigilant members of the public.

Biosecurity Queensland officers have destroyed the nests by direct nest injection with insecticide, and baited the area around the nest with an insect growth regulator to ensure that all ants in the colony are destroyed.

Biosecurity Queensland urges all residents and business operators in the below suburbs to check their properties, gardens and work sites, and report any suspect looking ants.

Annerley
Auchenflower
Coorparoo
Dutton Park
East Brisbane
Fairfield
Greenslopes
Highgate Hill

Holland Park
Holland Park West
Indooroopilly
Kangaroo Point
Mount Gravatt
Mount Gravatt East
South Brisbane
St Lucia

Taringa
Tarragindi
Tennyson
Toowong
West End
Woolloongabba
Yeerongpilly
Yeronga

You can identify fire ants by their coppery-brown colour and darker coloured abdomen. While small, 2–6 millimetres in size, their sting is incredibly painful and in rare cases can lead to anaphylactic shock and death.



Their nests look like mounds of loose soil with no visible entry or exit holes.



Here are the top five places you are likely to find fire ants:

| Residential |
|--|
| In and around logs and rocks |
| Gardening materials such as pot plants |
| Lawns |
| Garden beds |
| Taps and utility pits |

When checking nests for fire ants, gently poke the nest with a long stick and observe the ants that come out. Be careful not to get too close, as fire ants are aggressive and will swarm when disturbed.

You can report fire ants in 2 easy steps:

1. Take a close-up photo of any suspicious ants or nests.
2. Send us the photo and complete the 'Yard check report' online at www.daf.qld.gov.au/fireants or call **13 25 23**.

Fire ants are one of the worst invasive species to reach Australia's shores and can ruin our lifestyle, restricting everyday activities such as barbeques, picnics and sporting events.

Australia is the closest any country has come to eradicating fire ants, but we still have a lot of work to do to beat this serious invasive pest. We urge residents to continue to check their yards, local parks and recreational areas for fire ants. With continued public vigilance we aim to eradicate them once and for all.

Social Media posts



Fire ants were recently detected in St Lucia, Fairfield and Holland Park West. Be sure to check your yards, gardens and footpaths for any suspect ants or nests. Take a photo and complete the 'Yard check report' at www.daf.qld.gov.au/fireants or call Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23.



Fire ants were recently detected in St Lucia, Fairfield and Holland Park West. While small (2-6mm in length), they have a nasty sting. If you see any suspect ants that could be fire ants, report them to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 or at www.daf.qld.gov.au/fireants.