

## Characteristics

Ants are common structural pests in British Columbia. The importance of different species varies with their geographical location in the province. They enter houses looking for food.

## Infestation

Ant species differ in the number of queens per colony, how and what time of year the colony reproduces and the type of food they prefer at different times of the year. At certain times of the year winged males and winged females leave the colony to mate. The mated females, or queens, then establish new colonies.

## Before Treatment

If the treatment includes an inside application then:

1. Plan to be away for at least **6 to 8 hours** \* after application. This includes most pets. Fish tanks should be covered and the filter turned off. Plants are ok.
  - \* Small children 2 & under and people with respiratory problems or pregnant should be out overnight according to the BC Ministry guidelines. Apply these same guidelines to special-needs pets.
2. Turn **off** floor-bound computers.
3. The technician would appreciate clear **access** to the following areas:
  - Plumbing under sinks;
  - crawlspace;
  - Without moving any furniture, clear a 6-inch wide area along all inside walls of boxes, toys, magazines, shoes, clothing, etc.;
  - Outside perimeter walls. Cut back overgrown grass and weeds. Prune all trees and shrubs that touch the house. Store firewood well away from the house. These habits not only discourage insects but rodents as well.

## Application

Our treatment sprays a residual and contact product along inside walls and outside perimeter walls, cracks and crevices.

## After Treatment

Wash counters and stovetop. Do not clean or vacuum treated areas, i.e. 10cm from base of walls, inside for **at least 30 days** following the treatment, longer if ants are still being seen inside. The product will work for up to a year or longer when undisturbed. Do not wash outside structure or allow sprinklers to reach it.

## What to expect

You may see ants for up to 2 weeks while evacuating the nest(s). This will vary based on infestation, the number of colonies and stored food supply. Give us a call after this period if you see anything unusual.