

# Little Fire Ant

## Issue

The invasive little fire ant (LFA) will change the quality of life on Guam in many ways including the reduction of bio-diversity.

If not controlled . . .

- people will not be able to walk in nature without getting stung
- LFA will hitchhike in cargo transported to other islands
- LFA will make it impossible to plant or harvest crops

## What are the people at CNAS doing?

CNAS faculty and staff are:

- conducting research on pest management tools to control LFA
- collaborating with scientists around the world to find biological control methods to control fire ants



LFA stinging a human.



LFA like to live between banana leaves.



LFA are tiny and difficult to see.

## Managing this destructive pest

### Did you know?

- little fire ants are considered one of the worst invasive species
- little fire ants sting, they do not bite
- little fire ants like warm, damp, shady places with lots of foliage
- little fire ants multiply quickly
- *Wasmannia auropunctata* is the scientific name for little fire ant

### What can you do?

If you suspect LFA infestation

- collect ants and place in alcohol then bring to CNAS dean's office for identification

### What to do if you find little fire ants?

- do not move plants, potted plants, soil or green trimmings from the area in order to contain the infestation
- treat the area with low toxicity granular bait attractive to LFA called Siesta™
- then spray tree trunks and leaves with insecticide that interrupts the growth cycle of the ants, Tango®
- repeat these treatments every six weeks

### More information

Call (671) 735-2068 or visit, [www.littlefireants.com](http://www.littlefireants.com)



