Subject: Why Fire Ants Suck Posted by Blazer on Tue, 08 Jun 2004 21:19:35 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I'm so glad these damn things are not in Arizona.

"Fire ants are so named because their venom induces a painful, fiery sensation. When disturbed, fire ants are very aggressive. The ant grips the skin with its mandibles or jaws and stings its victim several times in a circular pattern around the point of mandible attachment. Because of the ant's aggressive nature and capacity for multiple stings, an attack usually results in several stings."

If you live in the sourthern states, especially Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, you WILL get stung by fireants every summer (or even winter too), without fail. Just saying they are "very aggressive" does not come close to describing these damn things. Basically, if they can touch you, they WILL sting you, each one many times, until you brush them off or squish them. If you layed down on a fire ant mound, they would most certainly sting you to death and then eat you too. Having lived in Mississippi for quite a few years, fireants are probably #1 on my most hated insects list, just under mosquitoes.

Just imagine living there, and knowing that this week, next week, or the week after that you were definitely going to have something like this:

I know what you're thinking..."just don't bother them". Its not that simple...the damn things make mounds all over your yard, so when you cut the grass you disturb a nest and thats your ass...you can't go within a dozen feet of it for days. Not only that if it rains, they invade your house, and if you so much as blow air on them, they scramble about looking for something to attack.

Lets not forget the other fun part...walking under pine trees. You see the ants like pine sap, because its sweet, so the fire ants climb all over pine trees...usually if you see someone lean against one, and before yuo can warn them they are doing the wild dance that only fireant stings can cause. Once I simply walked under a pine tree, and ONE ant fell out of the tree into my hair...the little bastard stung my scalp a dozen times before I could kill it, pretty much by just slamming my hand down all over my head like some crazed monkey.

EDIT: I forgot to mention the wonderful "surprise!" that fireants give you. You see unlike other ants that BITE you, fireants have a STINGER, like a bee. But to sting you first they have to bite you and holdon...so you get about a .3 second jab of what you would think is pain (the bite), before they sting you (which hurts like hell). If you don't immediately (within a second, squish the ant or brush it off, it keeps stinging. So you get *surprise!* (bite) *sting*-*sting*-*sting*-*sting*....and brushing them off isn't always easy as like I said they bite down and holdon. Also worth mentioning is that while fireants can float in water, they cannot swim, so they get in your pool, ponds, etc...then when you go for a swim, they latch on and you guessed it...start stinging. I hate the fuckers.

Fire ants are evil...they need to die...all of them.