

Swarmer Ants

Quick facts about flying ants and brief guidelines on preventing them in your home



Image: Adam Gerrard / Daily Mirror

What are swarmer ants?

Flying ants, also known as swarmers, are reproductive ants whose sole purpose is to reproduce and initiate a new colony. They often fly in large groups as a defense mechanism to protect themselves from predators. The male dies shortly after mating during the 'nuptial flight,' while the new queen will break off her wings and begin laying eggs to start her new colony.

Are flying ants dangerous?

Flying ants can be annoying, but they are not dangerous. They are solely focused on mating. In fact, these swarming events provide a vital food resource for their predators, such as birds.

How do I avoid flying ants?

Reduce light, close the doors and windows - Swarmers commonly fly at night, and like other flying insects, they are attracted to light sources.

Keep your home clean - Regularly clean and pay attention to food particles that may attract ants. Store food and sweets in sealed containers.

Clean your surroundings - Remove damp or decaying wood and clutter that can hide insects. Carpenter ants, for example, often feed on other insects and decaying substances.

Call for maintenance - Repair leaks or moisture issues, seal cracks and crevices to create a physical barrier.

Seek pest control assistance - Call **959** for professional advice when the situation becomes intolerable.



Image: Planet Natural