

Fire Ant Trails: News from the Texas Imported Fire Ant Research & Management Plan

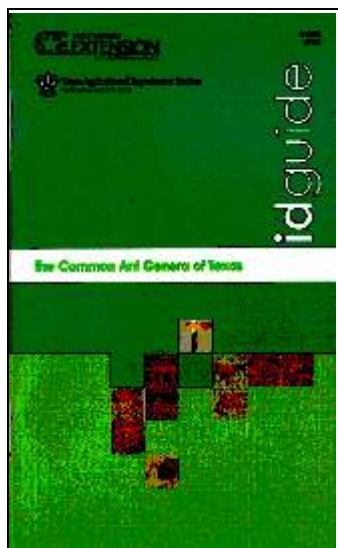
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B-6138 - "ANTS ID GUIDE: The Common Ant Genera of Texas"

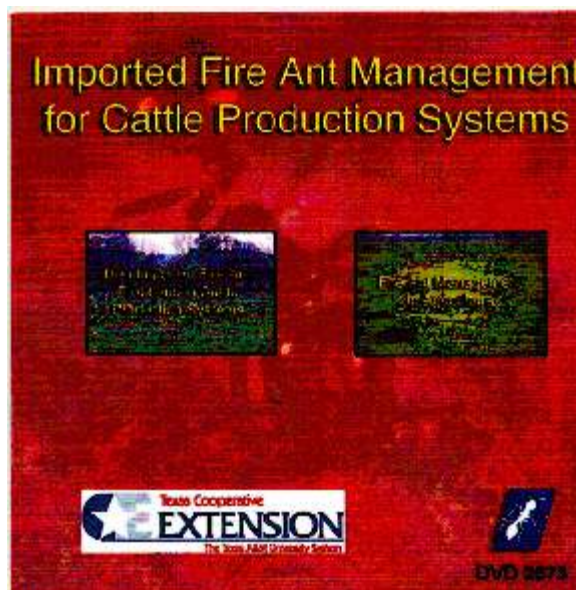
This new publication from Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station was developed by Dr. S. Bradleigh Vinson, Dr. Sean O'Keefe and Dr. Jerry Cooke. It provides identification keys and color photographs of ants in common genera. It was developed to support educational programs designed to help students, technicians and biologists identify ants and ant nests particularly of genera and species that occur outdoors. Preserving and encouraging native and competitor ant species is of great importance when selecting strategies for managing the red imported fire ant.

The Ant ID Guide, B-6138, has been printed and is being placed in stock as a for-sale-only publication from Texas Cooperative Extension for \$8.00 per copy. It can be ordered from the TCE bookstore, <http://tcebookstore.org>.



REVISED L-5070, "The Texas Two-Step Method Do-It-Yourself Fire Ant Control for Homes and Neighborhoods"

This popular leaflet, authored by Dr. Mike Merchant and Bastiaan M. Drees has been revised and is now available. Minor revisions include an update of common insecticides for fire ant control including "organic" products and added discussions regarding selection of a control approach. It can be ordered from the TCE bookstore, <http://tcebookstore.org>.



VIDEOTAPE AND DVD 2673: "Imported Fire Ant Management for Cattle Production Systems"

This 1 hour 10 minute DVD or VHS contains two programs presented initially on April 14, 2003 for a video conference organized by Dr. Kathy Flanders, Extension Entomologist with the Alabama Cooperative

Extension System, Auburn University, Alabama. It was developed, in part, in support of the USDA Crop Insurance Risk Management Program. Programs included were developed by Bastiaan M. Drees, Professor and Extension Entomologist, and Charles L. Barr, Extension Program Specialist. The programs were produced by Angel Fattorini, Agricultural Communications.

Red Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Program Result Demonstration Handbook 1999-2003

This result demonstration handbook contains 36 reports of field trials conducted by Texas Cooperative Extension faculty and staff during the implementation of the Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Plan, 1998-2003. It was compiled by Dr. Charles L. Barr, Extension Program Specialist and has been posted on the project's web site, <http://fireant.tamu.edu>. Of particular interest should be the evaluation of fipronil and indoxacarb formulations, assessment of methoprene bait in cotton, peanuts and pecans, and "organic" treatments.

TEXAS AND SOUTHWESTERN CATTLE RAISERS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

Imported Fire Ant

WHEREAS, Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association acknowledges progress made towards the goal of eliminating the red imported fire ant as a major health and economic pest through the implementation of the Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management Plan.

WHEREAS, Bill number Tx.74 RHB 2341 established a fire ant research and management account advisory committee that has provided the mechanism for implementing and overseeing the collaborative program that includes Texas Tech University, University of Texas, Texas A&M University, Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and Texas Cooperative Extension.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, strongly encourages the lead agency for this program, the Texas Experiment Station of the Texas A&M University System, to continue to fully support and fund fire ant research, education and regulatory programs.

Last Fire Ant Trails Issue

This will be the last Fire Ant Trails issue prepared by Bastiaan M. Drees. The six-year 1998-2003 Texas Imported Fire Ant Research & Management Plan continues to change under budgetary challenges. New means of communications will evolve in the future. It has been a sincere pleasure being part of the successful initiative to date, and I look forward to continued progress in the future.

Prepared by: Bastiaan "Bart" M. Drees,
Professor and Extension
Entomologist




Department of Entomology
412 Minnie Belle Heep Bldg.
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843-2475
979/845-7026; FAX: 979/845-7029
b-drees@tamu.edu; <http://fireant.tamu.edu>

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