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Grocery, garden, and hardware retail stores in Hawaii were surveyed in 2012 for ant bait insecticides available to control the little fire ants (LFA), *Wasmannia auropunctata*. Products were purchased and tested against LFA. Little fire ants can nest or colonize near the soil surface, plant debris and above ground (in trees, shrubs, structures, undisturbed sites). Ant food bait mixed with a slow-acting insecticide is the most effective way to kill and eliminate an ant colony by allowing the worker ants to carry the insecticide to the queen(s). These products were subjected to field trials to determine attractancy to little fire ant workers, and thereby, transfer of the bait insecticide back to their nests for eventual colony elimination.

Outdoor treatments: Outdoor products for LFA control are formulated as a broadcast granular bait. Granulated corn grit coated with soybean oil serves as the bait and a slow-acting insecticide is added to the corn grit matrix. Granular baits are spread uniformly on the ground using granular spreader applicators or aerial equipment. Tango is a concentrated liquid that must be formulated with a bait matrix and may be applied as a gel. LFA were not attracted to oil-corn grit with spinosad (Conserve) or methoprene (Extinguish Professional) possibly due to repellency of the toxicant itself or to high concentrations of the toxicant (Table 1) .

Read and follow all label directions before applying baits. Apply product as directed, then survey 2-3 weeks after each treatment using peanut butter to detect any remaining little fire ants (see “*Detecting the Little Fire Ant*” section in IP-24 publication **Stop the Little Fire Ant**). Repeat treatments and peanut butter surveying until ants are no longer detected.

Table 1: Outdoor broadcast bait attractancy to little fire ants.

Trade name	Active ingredient	Site/Crop (see footnote)	EPA Reg. No.
Attractive to little fire ants			
Advance 375A	abamectin	1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14	499-370
Advion Fire Ant Bait	indoxacarb	1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11	100-1481
Amdro Ant Block	hydramethylnon	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	73342-2
Amdro Fire Ant Bait	hydramethylnon	1, 5, 6, 7,	73342-1
Amdro FireStrike Yard Treatment	hydramethylnon, methoprene	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	73342-6
Distance Fire ant Bait	pyriproxyfen	3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13	1021-1728-59639
Esteem	pyriproxyfen	3, 15	59639-114
Extinguish Plus	hydramethylnon, methoprene	1, 3, 5, 6, 13, 16	2724-496
Maxforce Complete	hydramethylnon	1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16	432-1255
ProBait	hydramethylnon	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,	73342-1-2724
Siesta Insecticide Fire Ant Bait	metaflumizone	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11	7969-232
Liquid concentrate to be mixed and diluted with a bait matrix (see www.littlefireants.com/Tango%20package.pdf)			
Tango	methoprene	3, 15 , 16	2724-420

**Precautionary statement / Disclaimer: These recommendations are provided only as a guide.
Please read and follow all label directions**

Table 1: (continued) Outdoor broadcast granular bait attractancy to little fire ants.

Trade name	Active ingredient	Site/Crop (see footnote)	EPA Reg. No.
Not attractive to little fire ants			
Green Light Fire Ant Control with Conserve	spinosad	---	62719-304-869
Extinguish Professional	methoprene	---	2724-475

Non-bait outdoor treatments: Apply these products (Table 2) as a foliar spray, potted media drench, or ground application to kill foraging worker ants. Ground applications have residual effectiveness and act as barriers along boundaries to keep ants from re-infesting ant-free areas.

Table 2. Outdoor liquid ant insecticides

Trade name	Active ingredient	Site/Crop (see footnote)	EPA Reg. No.
Bug B Gon (spray,drench)	bifenthrin cypermethrin	1, 2, 3, 8, 11	239-2685

Indoor treatments: Most of these homeowner products (Table 3) are self-contained baits that can be used in homes, under sinks, near plumbing, and under cabinets, and do not contaminate food products. Read and follow all label directions before setting out these baits. Most recommend replacing bait stations every 3 months.

Table 3: Indoor bait attractancy to little fire ants.

Trade name	Active ingredient	Site/Crop (see footnote)	EPA Reg. No.
Attractive to little fire ants			
Extinguish Plus	hydramethylnon, methoprene	1, 3, 5, 6, 13, 16	2724-496
Hot Shot MaxAttrax Ant Bait 2	indoxacarb	16	9688-214-8845
Maxforce Complete	hydramethylnon	1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16	432-1255
Raid Ant Bait III	avermectin B	16	4822-529
Raid Double Control Ant Baits II	avermectin B	16, 17	4822-472
Tango	methoprene	3, 15, 16	2724-420
(A liquid concentrate to be mixed and diluted with a bait matrix (see www.littlefireants.com/Tango%20package.pdf))			
Not attractive to little fire ants (paste/liquid)			
Amdro Kills Ants Stake	hydramethylnon	---	1663-33-73342
Combat Source Kill Ant	fipronil	---	64240-30
Grant's Kills Ants Ant Control	hydramethylnon	---	1663-33
PIC Liquid Ant Bait Killer	sodium tetraborate pentahydrate	---	3095-47
Raid Ant Gel Precision Placement	thiamethoxam	---	100-1261-4822
TomCat Ant Killer Gel Bait	indoxacarb	---	12455-118-3240

Site/Crop: 1= lawn, landscape areas, 2= ornamental gardens, forested areas, 3= non-cropland areas, 4= recreational areas and parks, 5= on ground surrounding poultry houses or corrals and other animal holding areas, 6= golf courses, 7= commercial grounds, 8= around buildings, 9= residential areas, 10= non-food/non-feed areas, 11= managed turf areas (non-crop) ornamental nurseries, arboretums, public gardens, sod farms, 12= food storage areas, 13= field grown ornamental nursery and non-bearing nursery stock, 14=non-occupied patient areas of hospitals and nursing homes, **15= vineyards, fruit/nut bearing trees, other edible crops, 16= indoors, 17= potted plants.**

Reference: Hara. A.H. 2004 (rev 2010). Stop the Little Fire Ant. Alien Pest Alert. Cooperative Extension Service, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Publication IP-24. (download at <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/Info.aspx>)

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