

# Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus

ANT BAIT

ACTIVE CONSTITUENT: 5 g/kg PYRIPROXYFEN

GROUP **7C** INSECTICIDE

**For the control of invasive and nuisance ants in domestic, commercial, environmental or agricultural situations as per the Directions for Use table.**

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait is an Insect Growth Regulator, specifically a juvenile hormone mimic, similar to the naturally occurring insect growth hormones which control fertility, egg viability and pupation. Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait breaks the reproductive life cycle of ants, eventually causing starvation of the colony through lack of replacement of foraging workers. Ant workers pick up the bait granules and take them back to the colony or imbibe oil (containing the active ingredient) from the granules.

Workers feed the solid bait to late instar larvae which process the granules into liquid food which is fed to the reproductive adults, workers and young larvae. Workers may also pass the collected oil directly to these other life stages.

Due to degeneration of reproductive organs, the queen ant (or ants) and subordinate reproductive females fail to lay viable eggs and gradually the worker population is reduced. The lack of worker replacement results in colony death as the existing worker ants age and die. Within three to four weeks there is substantial colony mortality and within eight weeks the majority of the colony population has been eliminated.

## List of Ant Species

Nuisance and tramp ants include:

- Red Imported Fire Ant (*Solenopsis invicta*)
- Tropical Fire Ant (*Solenopsis geminata*)
- Bigheaded Ant (Coastal Brown Ant) (*Pheidole* spp.)
- Yellow Crazy Ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*)
- Electric Ant (*Wasmannia auropunctata*)
- Black Ants (*Iridomyrmex* and *Ochetellus* spp.)
- Singapore Ant (*Monomorium destructor*) and other *Monomorium* spp.
- Pony Ants (incl. Green Ants) (*Rhytidoponera* spp.)
- Meat Ants (*Iridomyrmex* spp.)
- Tyrant Ants (*Iridomyrmex* spp.)
- Green Tree Ants (*Oecophylla smaragdina*)
- Longlegged Ants (*Paratrechina* spp.)
- Sugar Ants (*Camponotus* spp.)
- Pennant Ants (*Tetramorium* spp.)

## Notes on Ant Biology

Ant colonies may vary seasonally and daily in their foraging habits and food requirements. At various times of the year and particularly after heavy rain, colonies may limit foraging for food to concentrate on other colony activities such as brood maintenance and colony relocation. Some species also cache food in the nest and may not be receptive to particular types of food at various times. For instance it is known that some species (eg. *Solenopsis*) may have a preference for lipids (oils) immediately after winter but they become less dependent later in the season. Most ant species only forage in mild temperatures (15-25°C), ceasing foraging when conditions become too cold or too hot. Ant communities also display clear dominance hierarchies, resulting in only one or a few species obtaining bait when multiple species are present simultaneously. Ants are also known to become bait-shy if exposed to bait too frequently. For persistent infestations, it is advisable to rotate ant baits from different chemical groups where available. All these factors may affect the uptake of and performance of bait products.

## APPLICATION

Baits may be laid utilising either hand held spreaders, spreaders attached to motor vehicles or aerial application. All spreading equipment should be calibrated on a regular basis to ensure that the permitted rate per hectare is achieved and not exceeded. When applying to vegetable crops ensure bait is placed in the inter-row area to avoid lodgement in the plant foliage.

## INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE

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### WARNING

For insecticide resistance management Distance Ant Bait is a Group 7C Insecticide.

Some naturally occurring insect biotypes resistant to Distance Ant Bait and other Group 7C Insecticides may exist through normal genetic variability in any insect population. The resistant individuals can eventually dominate the insect population if Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait or other Group 7C Insecticides are used repeatedly. The effectiveness

of Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait on resistant individuals could be significantly reduced. Since the occurrence of resistant individuals is difficult to detect prior to use, Sumitomo Chemical Australia Pty Ltd accepts no liability for any losses that may result from the failure of Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait to control resistant insects. Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait may be subject to specific resistance strategies. For further information contact your local supplier, Sumitomo Chemical Australia Pty Ltd representative or local department of agriculture agronomist.

## PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE, FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND ENVIRONMENT

Very toxic to aquatic life. **DO NOT** contaminate wetlands or other watercourses with the chemical or used container. Turn off/close the granular applicator during aerial application over water and leave a set-back equivalent to one swath width from the edge of the water.

**DO NOT** apply Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait from application equipment or under meteorological conditions that favour direct entry of Distance<sup>®</sup> Plus Ant Bait into water, or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Run-off from treated areas may be harmful to aquatic life in neighbouring areas.

**DO NOT** apply if rain is expected within 24 hours. **DO NOT** irrigate treated areas for at least 24 hours after application.

## STORAGE

Store in the closed, original container in a dry, cool well-ventilated area out of direct sunlight.

This product contains vegetable oil as an attractant. Under prolonged exposure to air, vegetable oil may turn become rancid and less attractive to ants. For best results, this product should be used within three months of opening the sealed cover. Otherwise, ensure container is always tightly sealed.

## DISPOSAL

### For containers ≤ 1kg:

Dispose of empty container by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage.

### For containers > 1kg:

Triple or preferably pressure rinse containers before disposal. Add rinsings to spray tank. **DO NOT** dispose of undiluted chemicals on site. If recycling, replace cap and return clean containers to recycler or designated collection point. If not recycling, break, crush or puncture and deliver empty packaging to an approved waste management facility. If an approved waste management facility is not available bury the empty packaging 500mm below surface in a disposal pit specifically marked and set up for this purpose clear of waterways, desirable vegetation and tree roots, in compliance with relevant Local, State or Territory government regulations. **DO NOT** burn empty containers or product.

## SAFETY DIRECTIONS

Will irritate the eyes. Avoid contact with the eyes. When using the product, wear elbow length PVC gloves. Wash hands after use. After each day's use, wash gloves and contaminated clothing.

## SMALL SPILL MANAGEMENT

Sweep up material and contain in a refuse vessel for disposal in the same manner as for containers (see Storage and Disposal).

## FIRST AID

If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre (Tel. 131126).

## SAFETY DATA SHEET

Additional information is listed in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available from the supplier.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

These goods are to be used only for the purpose and as specified on the label, and are not suitable for any other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or bear any liability on any basis for any loss, damage, cost or expense, arising in any way, directly or indirectly, in connection with the goods.

<sup>®</sup>Distance Plus is a Registered Trademark of Sumitomo Chemical Co., Japan

APVMA Approval No: 65967/52408

In a Transport Emergency  
**Dial 000**  
Police or Fire Brigade

**SPECIALIST ADVICE  
IN EMERGENCY ONLY  
1800 024 973  
ALL HOURS - AUSTRALIA WIDE**

## DIRECTIONS FOR USE

### RESTRAINTS:

**DO NOT** apply direct onto water.

**DO NOT** apply within 20 m water when applying by aerial application. Turn off/close the granular applicator during aerial application over or near water

**DO NOT** apply as a preventative measure for ant control

**DO NOT** apply more than one application per year where terrestrial arthropods such as land crabs may occur.

**DO NOT** water treated areas for at least 24 hours after application

**DO NOT** apply directly to crop plants (excluding pastures). Apply to inter-row areas where movement to water from irrigation or rainfall is not possible.

SITUATION	PEST	STATE	RATE	CRITICAL COMMENTS
<p><b>DOMESTIC AND PUBLIC SERVICE AREAS, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS</b> incl. parks, golf courses, sports grounds, paths and walkways, gardens, lawns and turf.</p> <p><b>CROPPING AREAS:</b> Plantations and orchards including Olives, Citrus and tropical fruits and tree nuts Other fruits and vegetables, herbs, spices. Pasture Native and managed forests.</p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AREAS:</b> National Parks and reserves where invasive ants are a threat to ecosystem values.</p>	Invasive and nuisance ants (see list)	All states	2-4 kg per hectare 2-4 g per 10m <sup>2</sup>	<p>Distance® Plus Ant Bait should be applied in the early spring or summer at the first sign of ant activity. Application is most effective when ants are actively foraging.</p> <p>For most situations the lower rate is adequate. However, in northern Australia and where heavy infestations occur then use the higher rate.</p> <p>Multiple applications may also be required for heavy infestations. Multiple applications may also be required for certain species that have multiple reproductive females inhabiting the same nest, to ensure that all reproductive females are exposed to the juvenile hormone mimic. These include Argentine ant (<i>Linepithema humile</i>) and Pony ants (<i>Rhytidoponera</i>).</p> <p><b>DO NOT</b> exceed 3 applications per year and a minimum of 3 months between each treatment.</p> <p>Avoid exposure to terrestrial arthropods such as land crabs. Apply only in areas of high ant density with zero or low crab density.</p> <p>Vegetables: <b>DO NOT</b> apply directly to crop plants. Apply to inter-row areas only.</p> <p>Poultry: <b>DO NOT</b> apply in pasture or other areas where poultry are or are intended to be feeding and/or grazing. Baits may only be laid in situations where direct access to the bait by poultry is not possible, e.g. in situations with maintained caged poultry above the ground/area to be baited.</p> <p>NB: The product contains vegetable oil as a primary attractant for ants. After prolonged exposure to air, vegetable oil may become rancid and less attractive to ants.</p> <p>Ensure the container is always tightly sealed.</p>

**NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE OR IN ANY MANNER CONTRARY TO THIS LABEL UNLESS AUTHORISED UNDER APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION.**

**WITHHOLDING PERIOD: NOT REQUIRED WHEN USED AS DIRECTED.**