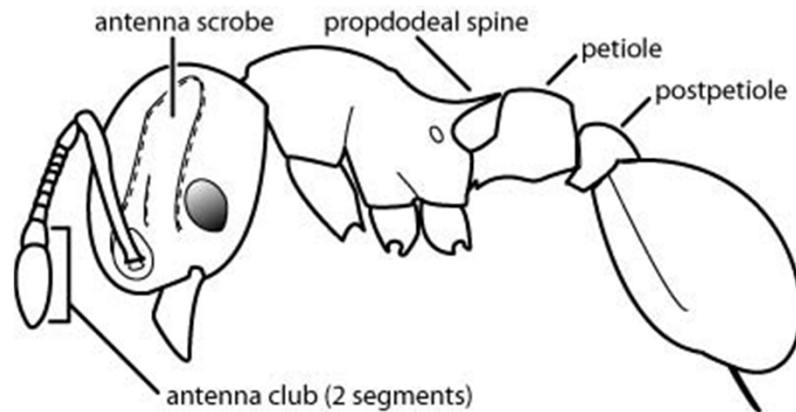


Is it Little Fire Ant?



Look for the following features in the order listed:

1. Little Fire Ants are very small – less than 3mm or 1/8th inch long. They are also uniformly yellow-gold in color (sometimes they can look orange). The head, trunk, gaster and legs are all the same color. – if your sample is like this, go to 2. If they are larger or a different color, they are not LFA
2. They have two "bumps" between the thorax and abdomen (a petiole and post-petiole). If yes?, go to 3. If they have only 1 bump, they are not LFA
3. the last 2 segments of the antenna are much bigger than all the others (a 2-segmented antennal club). If yes, go to 4. If the club is different, they are not LFA
4. they have two long spines protruding from the end of the thorax that are almost long enough to reach to the first "bump" (long propodeal spines). If yes, it could be LFA. If there are no spines, or the spines are much too short to reach the first bump, they are not LFA.

So if it has the two bumps AND the 2 bigger antenna segments AND the two long spines that reach all the way back to the bumps, then your ant is very probably a little fire ant.

LFA look-a-likes

These ants are present in Micronesia and look like Little Fire Ants.
They are the same size, shape and approximate color



Tetramorium similimum

Different because:

3 segmented antennal club

Short spines

Round eyes (not teardrop shape)

Solenopsis papuana

Different because:

1st antennal segment very large

No spines

Tiny eyes



Carebara atoma

Different because:

Not a gold color

Spines are very short and stubby

Parapatrechina minutior

Different because:

Only one node between thorax and abdomen

No 2 segmented club

No spines on propodeum

