

ANT CONTROL

The Wandering Tews



During our years of travel we have been infested by ants on a couple of occasions, and believe me when this happens they are extremely difficult to get rid of. On these occasions the main reason for infestation was due to my failing to adopt our control methods.

Following are some ideas we have become aware of during our travels.

1. Some travellers have purchased special feet pads for the leg stands that are designed to fill with water, and Ants don't swim. We have not used this method due to the cost of the feet and inconvenience of carrying them, this method also does not stop the ants from entering via other points.
2. We have for a long time been using Talcum Powder sprinkled around all points touching the ground, ants won't walk on the powder. It is not necessary to sprinkle around tyres as ants don't walk on rubber, I have noticed over the years that this does seem to be the case. When we fitted a full annex to our caravan we found that sprinkling powder was not fully effective as there was now many areas of the annex touching the ground that were extremely impractical to sprinkle around.
3. Another deterrent, that we now use, is to make a paste by boiling two cups of sugar with one cup of water and two tablespoons of borax. Boil for three minutes, we found that two minutes and the paste is thinner. Place some in tin or plastic lids and place in the path of ants, or several around the caravan. They are attracted by the sweet sticky contents and can seldom get past it, they then take the paste back to the nest and die, other ants eat them and also die eventually destroying the entire nest. The containers are then easily cleaned for further use when moving. This paste is very similar to 'ANT RID' purchased at most shops and much cheaper. We have found that ants in some areas, especially the very small ones are not attracted to the paste so we revert back to the powder.