



## **Controlling New Ant Colonies with Scimitar CS Insecticide**

Have you started to see winged ants flying around the golf course? In late August some serious changes are happening underground in the colonies of these social insects. While we've been golfing, the queen has been laying haploid eggs to produce the first males of the season and some female ants are fed a special diet to develop into new, winged queens. The winged males and females leave the colony to mate with other flying ants. Then, each new queen flies back to the turfgrass, chews off her wings, and starts a colony of her own. The problems caused by ant colonies are the mounds that can affect the game, dull the mower blades, and can suffocate the turf plant under the mound.

These new, late-summer colonies are small and close to the surface. Therefore, applications of Scimitar CS Insecticide at this time are likely to reach the target and destroy the colony. Once the temperatures begin to cool, the ants move the colonies lower in the soil for over-wintering.

But how do you know if the ants are still vulnerable? Just look. If you see ants at the surface, new mounds of soil, or can "sample" some with a soil probe, you will see that the ants are still at the top of the soil profile.

Scimitar CS Insecticide offers advanced generation pyrethroid technology in a proprietary formulation and it can be used up to 4 times per year. Apply and then reapply after a minimum of 7 days if monitoring indicates further applications are required. You can use 3.7 mL product/100 m<sup>2</sup> of Scimitar CS Insecticide to tackle this problematic pest. Make sure the soil is moist and the grass is mowed before the application, because irrigation and mowing are not recommended for 2 days following application. With all the rain this year, keep in mind to not apply when turf is waterlogged or when soils are saturated with water.

Sincerely,

Barry Johnson

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