

## **Fire ants – how to REMOVE a mound.**

If you have a nest of fire ants that you want to move, rather than poisoning them in place, here is a way I have used. It's definitely better to catch the mounds when they are small.

1. It is preferable to wear smooth boots if possible. Coat a ring around your boots, your shovel handle, and your wheelbarrow handles with talcum powder. Shake a generous ring of talcum powder around the inside, upper sides of the wheelbarrow.
2. Dig up the ant nest dumping everything into the wheelbarrow. You should see eggs, and maybe a queen or two. I don't know why, but the ants will not, or cannot cross the talcum powder.
3. Take the wheelbarrow far from garden and away from human activity and dump.
4. Don't work around dug up site for remainder of day because there will be angry, disoriented fire ants wandering around.
5. I also then poison any mounds not in my veggie garden.
6. Check around dump site in following couple of weeks, and poison any re-established mounds.

The biggest disadvantage to this method is that you lose a lot of your nice garden soil if it's a big mound.

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