

# A Bug's Life

# Odorous house ant

*Tapinoma sessile*

## Fun facts

- Named because of an odor produced when crushed
- Nests can be found outdoors along foundation or under siding
- Foraging ants find their way in through small gaps around windows, doors, electrical plates, other utilities
- Sugar feeding ants with big appetite



## Identification

Damage: Trailing or live foraging ants indoors in kitchen, bathrooms, offices

Workers: 1-node that is hidden by abdomen, 1/8" long, slender abdomen, dark brown to black color, smell like rotten coconut or blue cheese when crushed



## Management

- Clean up spills and drips right away
- Use indoor and outdoor bait stations with liquid sugar bait, placed as close to trails
- While using baits, ants must be allowed to feed and take back to colony
- Follow ants to find the entrance and seal gap with sealant or caulking



Photos: J. Green