

Caresheet for your non hibernating exotic species (4 pages)

Arrival of your ants:

- When your colony arrives give them a drop of honey water and a sterilised cricket cut in half or another insect.
- Do not place them onto a heat matt straight away!
- Exotic ants need to be warmed up at room temp for at least the first 72 hours to allow toxins built up during transport to disperse
- We insure Live Arrival of queen or queens for free
- Most our exotic colonies of exotics need to be put in a nest ASAP! If you have more than 10 workers.
- Keep the test tube moist! The water in the bottom of the test tube will keep the colony hydrated until it runs dry then you can pipette 3-4 drops of water onto the cotton once a week or do a test tube change, I recommend it.

Feeding your ants:

- You can feed them dead small insects which you can crush like flies, crickets, grasshoppers for example. Insects are needed for brood development (can feed them live food when the colony has more workers say 40 +)
- Boil insects before you give them to your colonies just place in boiling water to kill microbes and cut them in half
- Antsrus protein shakes are good convenient way to feed your queens and workers all they need
- Ants need protein for egg and brood growth
- You can give your colony honey water so just buy some honey from your local shop and just add some water to it and place a tiny drop into the test tube.
- In an ant's nest Feed the ants every 2-3 days and remove any uneaten remains and discard them after this time period.

Hibernation:

 One of the best things about exotics is they don't need to hibernate they just need a heat matt with temp between 24-28 degrees Celsius and humidity 50-70 percent Eventually ants will outgrow the tube which can happen rather fast say when there are around 10-20 or more workers, we would therefore advise you to buy an ant's nest.

Ant nests:

Sand/soil:

- Allows ants to dig their ant nests, some nests consist of two class panels where you can put sand or soil in the middle (don't use gel farms as a substrate as they promote mould growth replace with sand instead)
- Tanks can be used as they provide a large area for nests to be established and the space above the soil can be used as a forage area
- Tanks have the ability to replicate outdoor environments which is good

Y-tong nests:

- Aerated concrete block that can be carved manually or with machinery to create chambers
- A clear acrylic cover allows excellent viewing of ants
- Moisture can be controlled by placing nest in a tray filled with water
- You can connect to a forage area (out world) or an out world can be placed on top of the nest connected by tubing
- Excellent viewing for ants

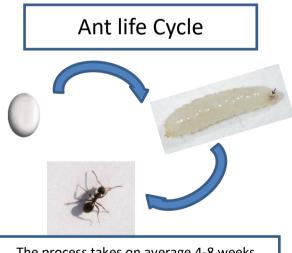
Gel ants' nests as a substrate are not suitable for queen ants and workers!

Questions or more products such as nests and more ants email:

antsrus1@gmail.com

Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/antsrus1/

Website: <u>www.antsrus.com</u> (Lowest prices if you buy direct)



The process takes on average 4-8 weeks which is temperature dependent, each stage is 2-3 weeks long. This process stops or slows dramatically if the colony is

