



# Ants



It is virtually impossible to poke a camera into any nook or cranny on the planet and not find ants foraging. While a few photos here are deliberate, most are accidental. Some are identified by their scientific names.

"Ants are eusocial insects of the family Formicidae and, along with their related wasps and bees, belong to the order Hymenoptera.

"They evolved from wasp-like ancestors in the Cretaceous period, about 140 million years ago, and diversified following the rise of flowering plants.

"More than 12,500 of an estimated total of 22,000 species have been classified. They are easily identified by their elbowed antennae and the distinctive node-like structure that forms their slender waists."

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ant>)

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<https://www.flickr.com/photos/86181924@N02/>



Two Ants discussing the latest news from the  
*Formicidae Vespoidea Arthropoda* Daily.



The second Ant, whose rear end is just visible,  
went unnoticed until the photo was enlarged.



Ants tending their Aphids



Ants Foraging

Above, Apple Blossom

Below, Maple Leaf



(<http://www.americanforests.org/magazine/article/ants-and-trees-a-lifelong-relationship/>)



**Tending their colony of Aphids**  
(<https://www.thoughtco.com/aphid-herding-ants-1968237>)

The reddish thorax identifies these ants as  
*Camponotus chromaiodes*

(<https://www.alexanderwild.com/Ants/Taxonomic-List-of-Ant-Genera/Camponotus/i-v5Zktmm>)





**Black Carpenter**  
*(Camponotus pennsylvanicus)*



"Nirvana, thy name is Tomato."



"Nirvana, thy name is also Orange."



Ant dragging an insect carapace  
c/w two wings and a leg.  
Adult ants chew the keratin and feed  
the mulch to their larvae.

(The upper shot is posted on Flickr:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/86181924@N02/10160425484>)



This fellow scored an entire beetle.



The big ant, happening upon this little dead ant,  
examined the corpse, and then went  
about its business.



Duo Deep Down in a Dandelion



While sitting on the front steps sipping a cup of tea and watching this Mayfly writhe in its final throes, an Ant happened by. With a few bites, it quickly dispatched the fly, gripped its tail, and hauled it away.











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