

This information was gathered by both Anthony and I regarding a question taken on notice: Page 13 third comment

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Out of interest, do you know what the other species is, that they're coexisting with?

Anthony and I collaboratively found some more information on this:

In Australia:

Fire Ant Eradication Team members have seen RIFA cohabitating with a species from a few genera including meat and tyrant ants (*Iridomyrmex* spp) and funnel ants (*Aphaenogaster* spp). They have also seen them sharing mound structures with termites. Most of the records we have are anecdotal at the moment but there are a few documented cases that may get published. They have seen RIFA sharing the same nest structure with funnel ants, and noted the presence of brood and funnel ant alates with no sign of aggression between the two species.

Overseas

In the USA, a number of ants species also coexist with Fire Ants. Termites are also known to inhabit termite mounds after RIFa have been removed.

In general, there is no published information in Australia and minimal information overseas.

I hope this is adequate.

Best wishes

Nigel Andrew and Anthony Young