

## Essay Writing - Fire Ants

### Hypothesis

Fire ants are an introduced species that will impact greatly on Australia if they are not controlled effectively or eradicated completely.

### Opening Paragraph

Explain the hypothesis. Explain what an introduced species is using the following topic sentence. **An introduced species is one that...** Explain why fire ants pose a threat to Australia using the sentence opener **Fire ants need to be managed or eradicated, or they will pose a threat to Australia. They will impact on Australia by...** To continue this you could refer to the case in the USA.

### Body- Section One

These paragraphs will focus on a description of a fire ant. You will need to cover what it is, what it looks like and its reproductive and migratory habits.

Start your first paragraph with the following topic sentence. **Fire ants can be distinguished from other ants due to several factors.** (you go on to explain these).

Start your second paragraph with the following topic sentence. **A fire ant's reproductive cycle is unique.** (using your booklet explain the reproductive cycle).

Start your third paragraph with the following topic sentence. **In order to relocate themselves, fire ants use a variety of methods.** (you continue to explain these).

### Body- Section Two

These paragraphs will focus on life in the colony.

Begin your first paragraph with the following topic sentence. **A fire ant mound can be recognized by several features.** (use your booklet to explain the mound).

Begin your second paragraph with. **Fire ants develop two different types of colonies.** (explain monogyne and polygyne).

### Body- Section Three

This paragraph focuses on the fire ant's home territory.

Begin with the topic sentence **The fire ants' place of origin is South America, yet it is not a pest here.** (you go on to explain why, examining natural predators and conditions).

### Body- Section Four

These paragraphs focus on the arrival of the fire ant into Australia and the attempts to contain or eradicate it.

Start your first paragraph with the topic sentence **Fire ants were first identified in Brisbane in February 2001.** (you go on and explain where they were identified, how long they could have been here and how they could have got here).

Start your second paragraph with the topic sentence **These ants could impact on Australia in a range of ways.** (you go on to explain the agricultural, environmental and urban impacts from your booklet).

Start your third paragraph with the topic sentence **The Department of Primary Industries has a three stage plan to deal with the fire ant threat.** (you go on to explain this plan, including methods of treatment).

Start your fourth paragraph with the following topic sentence **A timeline has been set to eradicate this pest.** (you go on to explain this and state if you think it will occur).

### Conclusion

Begin your conclusion with the topic sentence **Fire ants will pose a threat to Australia if not effectively controlled, though the DPI is aiming for eradication by 2004. In the meantime however the following must be done.** (you go on to explain what needs to happen before eradication occurs, referring to data already stated).

THE END!