**Fire Ant Mating & Reproduction Information**

**Gestational period for a fire ant**

After fertilization, a new queen lays approximately a dozen eggs, which hatch within 7 to 10 days.

The queen feeds and cares for the immature ants until they become adults, which generally occurs within 20 to 25 days of the eggs hatching.

**Fire ant offspring**

A fire ant queen can live for 7 years and produce as many as 1,000 eggs per day.

**How long does the offspring live with the parent?**

A mature colony can contain up to 400,000 sterile worker ants.