



**User manual**



**Starter Set Combi**

# **Instructions for use**

The **starter set Combi** is available in sizes **S**, **M** and **L** and is suitable for most burrowing ants. The set is made of high-quality material and is ideal for starting to keep ants.

## **Step 1**

### **Search for a suitable location**

In order not to expose the ants to unnecessary vibrations and temperature fluctuations, a suitable and stable place should be chosen.

Attention:

- do not place near windows
- do not place near radiators
- do not place on vibrating surfaces
- do not place near music equipment
- do not place near noisy machines
- do not place over electrical appliances
- do not place in a room with strong odours (e.g. kitchen)
- do not place in a smoking room

## Step 2

### **Control**

Check the complete contents of the kit to make sure everything is in stock.

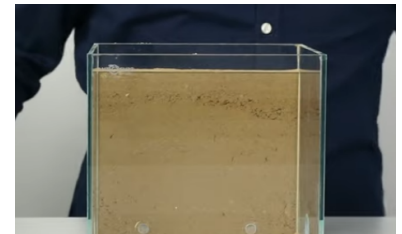
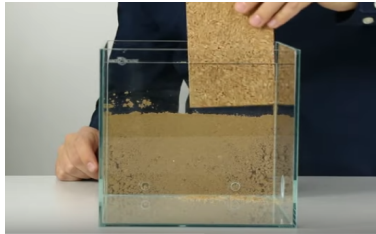
### **Content:**

- 1x ANTCUBE - Arena 20x20x20 - Combi
- 1x Ant arena cover 20x20
- 2x Formicarium plugs for 27mm hole
- 2x Formicarium plugs for 50mm hole
- 1x Substrate - sand-loam beige - 1000g
- 1x Drinking trough 2ml - 360 degrees
- 1x Bowl clear 1x20 - Sponge
- 1x Hand magnifier - 2x - 30mm
- 1x Tweezers plastic transparent
- 1x pipette 3ml
- 1x Ant escape protection oil 10ml
- 1x Foam wiper 150x18x2,5mm

### Step 3

#### **Assembly**

- First fill the nest area with the **substrate - sand-loam beige - 1000g** up to the top edge.

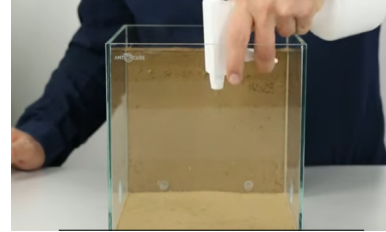
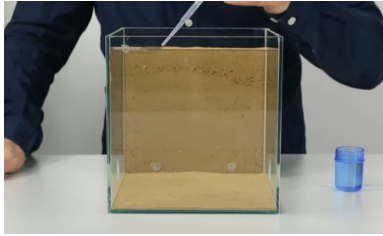


If the substrate is too dry, so that it trickles out of the holes at the bottom, you can close them for the time being during filling.

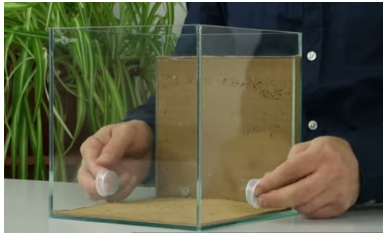
- Afterwards, the same substrate is used again for the arena area. The layer should **not be higher** than 1-2mm, otherwise there is a risk that the ants will dig themselves in and not use the farm or nest area intended for them.



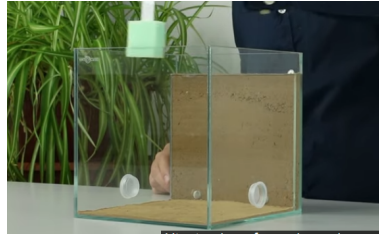
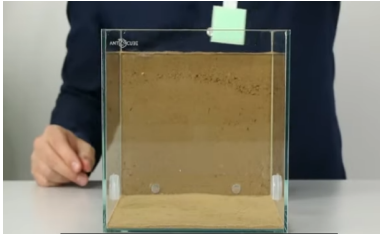
- In order for the substrate to bind and solidify, the nest area can be moistened using the **3ml plastic pipette**. For the arena floor, a spray bottle can also be used for moistening.



- Use the existing **formicarium plugs** for the **27mm hole** to close the still open holes at the side of the arena.



- The **ant escape protection oil 10ml** is now applied to the upper inner sides of the arena. For this we use the **foam wiper 150x18x2.5mm**. Alternatively, a household cloth or your own finger can be used. The layer should only be applied very thinly!

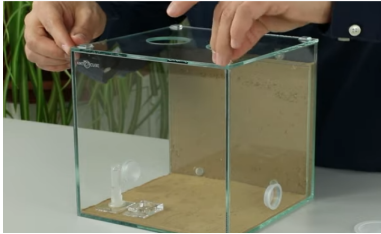


Care should be taken to brush the oil into the corners to prevent the ants from breaking out.

- With the help of the **plastic pipette 3ml**, the **drinker 2ml - 360 degrees** is now filled and food suitable for the respective ant species is added to the **bowl clear 1x20 - sponge**. These are then placed in the front area of the arena. This facilitates food control and makes it easier to see if the containers need to be cleaned.



- To prevent the arena cover from slipping, the fixing points supplied should be attached. The cover is placed on the arena in order to position the fixing points correctly. Afterwards, the cover can be turned over again and put on properly. The 50mm holes that are still open can now be sealed with the formicarium plugs for the 50mm hole.



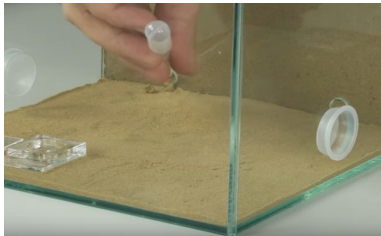
**The arena is now safe and the animals can no longer escape through the oil!**

## Step 4

### **Settling the colony**

The lower openings in the nest area are intended for the colony to use as an entrance if necessary.

As a small starting aid and to show the ants the way, you can also poke light holes in the small holes.

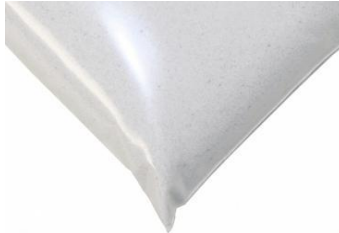


For the insertion of the colony, the plug is removed from the nest tube. The nest tube is then placed in the arena so that the ants can get used to their new environment and move in.





Optionally, it is also possible to use other soil substrates suitable for the respective ant species and to purchase it in our webshop.



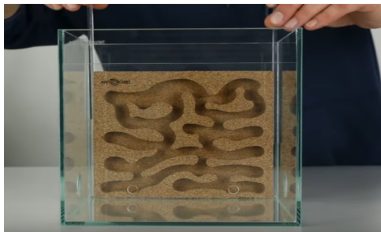
Other nest inserts such as cork or plaster would still be possible for the size **Combi L**



### Hint:

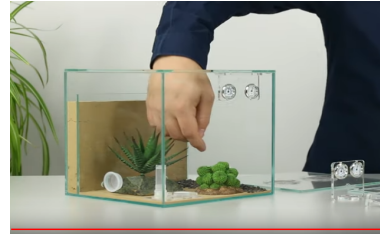
When using our nest inserts, please note that they are 8mm narrower, as they were originally designed to fit our narrower ant farms and arena inserts! The resulting space can be filled with filling material such as plaster or clay, as desired.

Alternatively, these spaces can also be filled with our acrylic glass guide rails.



## Examples of other useful accessories for the Combi basin:

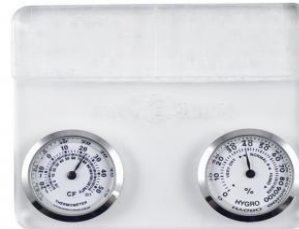
- With the ant arena frames 20x20 you can also handle easily and safely in an open arena.



- With a thermo/hygrometer set, you can always keep an eye on the climate. This means you always have the temperature and humidity in view.



**Mini Thermo- Hygrometer  
analog - Display - steher**



**Mini Thermo- Hygrometer  
analog - Display - Front**



**Mini Thermo- Hygrometer  
analog - Display - hängend**



**Mini Thermo- Hygrometer  
analog - Display - Magnet**

- For better ventilation, we offer ventilation grids. This is especially important for ant species from dry regions.



Gittereinsatz - 50mm -  
Edelstahl



Gittereinsatz Acryl 50mm -  
klar - fein

We use the **spring steel tweezers - wide - soft for** gripping ants so as not to injure them.



There is a helpful video on our website specifically for the Habitat Starter Set:



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