

Preventing Termites



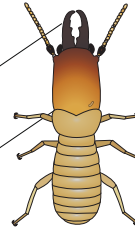
Drywood Termite

Drywood termites nest where they feed and do not need contact with soil to invade a structure. They enter structures through cracks or holes in window frames, door frames, vents, screens or through gaps in the building's foundation.

Identification Chart

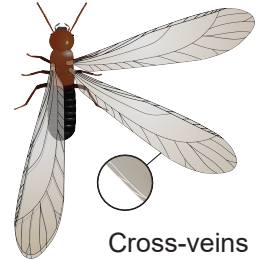
Soldier

Teeth on mandible
Wide pronotum



Alate

Orange to brown head, dark-brown to black body



Cross-veins

Monitor For:

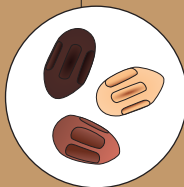
Damaged Wood



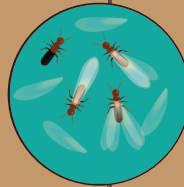
Kick-Out Holes



Fecal Pellets



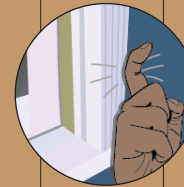
Swarming Alates



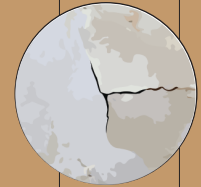
Discarded Wings



Hollow Wood



Bubbled Paint



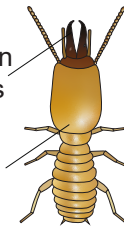
Subterranean Termite

Subterranean termites nest in soil and forage away from their nests. They depend on moist environments and build mud tubes to prevent themselves from drying out when foraging above-ground. Infestations occur from base-level or from underneath the building's foundation.

Identification Chart

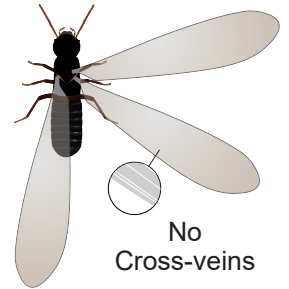
Soldier

No teeth on mandibles
Narrow pronotum



Alate

Dark brown to black body and head



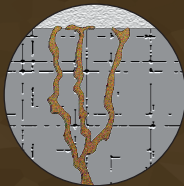
No Cross-veins

Monitor For:

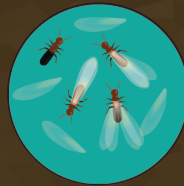
Damaged Wood



Mud-Tubes



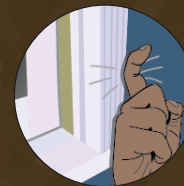
Swarming Alates



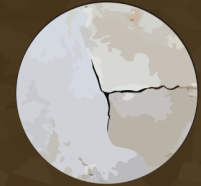
Discarded Wings



Hollow Wood



Bubbled Paint



Managing Conducive Conditions for Termite Infestations



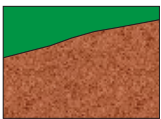
Moisture

Termites are attracted to moisture. Reduce moisture in and around structures to avoid attracting termites.



Water Leaks

Repair irrigation or pipe leaks in and around the structure.



Mulch

Keep mulch at least a foot away from structures.



Vegetation

Trim vegetation at least 18 inches away from the structure.



Grade Slope

Make sure that water is draining away from the building.

Other Conditions

Termites are attracted to decaying wood and soil to wood contact. Cracks and gaps in screens, vents, or in the building's foundation can give termites access to the wood inside.



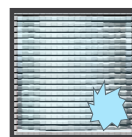
Tree Stumps

Remove decaying tree stumps that are close to structures.



Wood Pile

Clear piles of wood or plant debris away from structures.



Access Points

Seal gaps in screens, vents, or in the building's foundation.