Formosan Termites

QUICK STATS:

Color:
Creamy white to brown

Shape:
Long, narrow and oval

Size:
½ inch long

Region:
Found in Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, and California

Formosan Termites

C. formosanus

OVERVIEW:

Originally from China, Formosan termites are an extremely aggressive and destructive termite species. Formosan termites are a subterranean species of termite. Swarmer Formosan termites are about ½ inch in overall length, including their wings.

HABITS:

Formosan termites live in huge underground colonies, with an average of 350,000 workers, but can contain as many as several million termites. Formosan termites build intricate mud nests in the ground. In addition to structures, they are also known to infest trees, shrubs, utility poles, timber, railroad trusses and even boats.

THREATS:

A mature colony of Formosan termites can cause severe structural damage to a home in as little as six months. Prevention is key with this species. If dealing with an existing infestation, talk to a pest professional about Formosan termite treatment.

PREVENTION:

- Divert water away from your home's foundation with properly functioning downspouts, gutters and splash blocks.
- Reduce humidity in crawl spaces, attics and basements with proper ventilation.
- Store firewood at least 20 feet away from the house and 5 inches off the ground.
- Maintain a one-inch gap between soil and wood portions of your home.
- Inspect your home for signs of mud tubes, bubbling paint and wood that sounds hollow when tapped.
- If you suspect a termite problem, contact a licensed pest professional right away.

DID YOU KNOW? Formosan termites...

- are nicknamed the "super termite" for their destructive capabilities.
- of an average colony size can consume one foot of 2X4 wood in 25 days.
- can chew through wood, flooring and even wallpaper.

For more information, visit **PESTWORLD.org**

NATIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION inc.