

# "TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

**TOP SECRET**

August 2011



*Happy Summer!*



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## Inside This Issue...

- Safer Baiting For Rodent Control 1
- Rave Reviews! 2
- Dog Killed By Swarm Of Bees! 3
- President's Economic Stimulus 3
- August is National Golf Month! 3
- Termites Worse Than I Thought! 4

## A Safer Way To Use Baits For Rodent Control

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has announced they are moving to ban the sale of most toxic rat and mouse poisons, as well as most loose bait and pelleted products, to residential consumers. They are also requiring that all newly registered rat and mouse poisons be enclosed in bait stations that render the rodenticides inaccessible to children and pets. These actions will also help to protect wildlife from consuming baits or poisoned rodents (Which may lead to secondary poisoning).

"These changes are essential to reduce the thousands of accidental exposures of children that occur every year from rat and mouse control products and also to protect household pets," said Steve Owens, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. "Today's action will help keep our children and pets safe from these poisons."

The EPA is especially concerned about children being exposed to these poisons because these products are typically placed on floors where they are easily accessible to children. And, some children are known to have placed these rodent bait pellets in their mouths. According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, they receive between 12,000 and 15,000 reports of children under the age of six being exposed to these types of products, annually!

Not all companies that produce rat and mouse poisons have agreed to adopt the new safety measures. The EPA

intends to initiate cancellation proceedings under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. These products will be removed from the U.S. market.

Under the new regulations, manufacturers will be required to place their rodent bait in non-refillable, tamper resistant bait stations. Pelleted formulations will be prohibited.

Certain formulations will no longer be available for sale to residential consumers because of their toxicity and the secondary hazards to wildlife. These products will only be available for use by professional applicators. Professional applicators will be required to use tamper resistant bait stations for all above ground applications to minimize exposure to children, pets and wildlife.

"Termite" Terry says that these new regulations are a good thing for everybody. He said, "If a homeowner wants to take care of his or her own rodent control problems, that is fine. However, these owners should insist on using these newly available products and they should always follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully because the improper use of these products could lead to serious injury. Everyone hates having rats or mice in their homes and businesses. But, you've got to be really smart about using rodent baits. It only takes one stupid move and you could really hurt someone or a pet."

"Termite" Terry recommends **using rodent baits only as a last resort**. Here are some control measures you

(turn the page)

### Lucille Ball's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1911!

She was the star of the famous "I Love Lucy" TV series (1951 to 1957) and the "Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour" (1957 to 1960). Today, the "I Love Lucy" series is syndicated and still broadcast in dozens of languages.

### Celebrating General Norman Schwarzkopf

*"It doesn't take a hero to order men into battle. It takes a hero to be one of those men who goes into battle."*

Norman Schwarzkopf, born August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1934

## Rave Review!

*"We found "Termite" Terry on Angie's List. This company was the first to call and come out for an estimate. Joe Johnston spent approx. 1.5 hours at our house, assessing termite damage, giving an estimate and providing information about the process. Our house is 35 years old and hasn't been treated in 20 years. We got estimates for fumigation, as well as an area where subterranean termites have invaded. Thanks to Joe, we know more about termites that we ever have before! Compared to the other two estimates, which were more money and less detailed, this company was extremely knowledgeable about termites and the products to be used.*

*"Termite" Terry was the only company to give us with full cubic volume measurements and provided an estimate that day. Joe gave us two different detailed estimates with the cost break down and warranties. The fume estimate included a two night stay at a local pet friendly hotel – also the only company to offer this, as well as BBB reports, customer references and a DVD about fumigation. Companies should know the salesperson or estimator is the customer's first impression of their work. This is a major undertaking and the more information homeowners have, the better they can make a decision.*

*In addition, Joe told us that many companies use less Termidor and gas to lower their prices. "Termite" Terry was the only company to use Termidor according to the manufacturer's recommendations, while the other companies cost more for less product.*

*Joe and the team arrived promptly on Wednesday. He scheduled the gas shut-off/turn-on and the reservations for the hotel. Everything went smoothly, with no complaints. Very responsive, good follow up, professional, informative. By far, the most detailed, prepared estimate and the lowest cost."*

Stacy Clements  
Laguna Hills

should do before baiting:

- Start by sealing all holes, inside and outside to prevent entry by rats and mice. Remember, a mouse only needs a hole of ¼ inch to gain access. Rats can crawl through a hole the size of a dime!
- You really need to clean up potential food sources and nesting sites. If you'll think about it for a minute, why would one of these rodents eat poisonous bait if there were other tastier foods to choose from, such as foods in your pantry or perhaps pet food left in a pet's dish?
- It is really important to clean up rat and mouse droppings. The last thing you want is for these pests to feel comfortable and right at home in your house or business!
- Check for nesting materials where they might want to "hang out". Clean up these areas and throw out stuff like old clothing, rags, scrap carpet and clutter. Again, your goal is to make your home less attractive to these pests.
- Look for evidence of gnawing and chewing on food packaging or on your structures. If you see this happening, you'll know where you really need to focus your attention.

Once you've got all the holes sealed and everything is cleaned up, "Termite" Terry recommends you should use traps to eliminate any of these pests which may be left inside your home or business. It is really important to use the correct type of trap. His favorites are the "wooden" types of traps which are available at most hardware stores. Be careful when placing traps and make sure they are out of reach for children and pets!!

### "Termite" Terry's Hot Tip!

*What kind of bait should you use on your traps? Find out what the rats or mice are eating and use that! In other words, if they are eating pet food, use pet food for bait. If they are trying to build a nest, cotton balls or cloth may be the perfect bait to use. Many others*

*suggest using peanut butter or cheese, but we don't recommend them. Again, the best choice is what these pests are already used to eating.*

Once you have assured yourself that all rodents have been removed from the interior, you may want to consider using rodent baits on the exterior to help bring down the population of these pests.

When baiting, always place baits in tamper resistant bait stations. We don't want for children or pets to have access to the baits. These bait stations have compartments and/or devices to secure baits so rats or mice can't carry them out. Bait stations should be secured to the ground or buildings because we don't want children or pets picking these up and playing with them. Last, but not least, all bait stations should be labeled to show your contact information and what products are being used.

Please note that we don't recommend using rodent baits on the interior because it is very likely these pests will die inside. Many homeowners will gladly share stories of how they used poisonous baits on their interiors, only to have these pests die inside of a wall or under a cabinet. They will also tell you how miserable they were for days, if not weeks, because of the horrible stench from dead rodent carcasses.

Are you having problems with rats or mice and need help? **Call our office at (949) 631-7348** and we'll be happy to schedule an appointment at your convenience!



## Family Dog Killed By Swarm Of Bees!

When a family in Torrance left for church on a Sunday morning, their healthy dog was happy and playing in the backyard. But, when the family returned later that day, they found their dog lying in a corner of their yard. The dog was convulsing and her face was badly swollen. There were hundreds of bee stingers in her face, neck and head.

"We thought they were flies, she was convulsing and breathing very hard," the dog's owner said. "I tried to carry her to the patio. She was in a lot of pain and stiff. It looked like her nervous system was shot already."

The family gave the dog Benadryl and tried to remove as many bee stingers as possible, but the 40 pound dog died 15 to 30 minutes later.

Jonnie Quantz, a veterinarian at the Animal Emergency Referral Center in Torrance, said that she sees many cases of bee sting allergies and reactions. And, some of these sting victims do suffer from anaphylaxis, which causes death.

"When an animal is stung, pulling stingers out only releases more venom," Quantz said. "But, even so, she said there was probably little the dog's owner could have done to save their dog after such a massive bee attack." The doctor went on to recommend that in cases like this, owners should immediately transport their pets to an animal emergency clinic.

They later traced the origin of the bees and found them to be coming from a hive, located in the attic of the owner's home. The owners were unaware that they had a bee colony living in their attic.

"Termite" Terry recommends that everyone should have their homes

inspected at least once a year for pest problems. Many pests cause damage, spread disease and some, like bees and wasps, can be very dangerous to pets, children and the elderly. If you haven't had your home inspected during the past 12 months, **call us at (949) 631-7348** to schedule an appointment. Pest Audits are always FREE for qualified homeowners!

## President's Economic Stimulus Plan

More and more of your neighbors are taking advantage of President "*Termite*" Terry's Economic Stimulus Plan. Here are just a few more:

- John Le of Garden Grove referred us to Long Truong of Garden Grove.
- Julie Comella of Costa Mesa referred us to her mother, Pauline Dini of Placentia.
- Valerie Croxton of San Juan Capistrano referred us to Margaret Bushaw of Laguna Niguel.
- Dennis Hong of Fountain Valley referred us to Peter Tran of Santa Ana.

For referring our services and participating in the President's Economic Stimulus Plan, these fine citizens will all receive a FREE \$50.00 GAS CARD! When these people pull into a service station and fill up their gas tanks for FREE, they are proving that the President's plan works. To participate in the President's plan, all you have to do is keep your eyes and ears open and when you find someone in need of regular pest control, termite treatment or repairs - have them call us. And, if they decide to work with us, you'll get your FREE tank of gas!!

## August is National Golf Month!

Over 28 million Americans play golf in the United States. In celebration of August as National Golf Month, we thought it would be fun to share some interesting facts about the game with you:

- The odds of a pro making a hole in one are 1 in 3,756. Odds for an amateur are at 1 in 12,750. Go ahead and try, but the odds of making two holes in one in a single round of golf are at 1 in 67 million!
- Talking about holes in one, Scott Palmer holds the record for getting 28 in a single year (1983).
- Sam Snead holds the record for 36 holes at 122 strokes. That record was set in 1959!
- Like to win big? Jerry Pate holds the record at 21 strokes (Colombian Open, 1981).
- Think your drives are good? In 1962 Nils Lied, an Australian meteorologist, was in Antarctica and achieved a drive of 2,640 yards!
- Peru's Tactu Golf Club is the world's highest golf course at 14,335 feet.
- Did you know there are 3 golf balls on the moon?
- The world's first golf tournament for women was held on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1811 at Musselburgh.
- The International Golf Club, in Massachusetts, is the world's longest golf course at 8,325 yards.
- The Sano Course, at the Satsuki Golf Club in Japan, has the longest hole at 909 yards (par 7).
- Jack Nicklaus (1964) and Nick Price (1992) hold the record for the longest holed putts at 110 feet.
- Mickey Wright holds the record for the lowest women's score at 62. Wayne Meyers holds the men's record at 57.

Aren't those facts amazing? Guess the rest of us had better start practicing more, huh?

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785 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. #G, Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
(949)631-7348 [www.termiteterry.com](http://www.termiteterry.com)

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785 W. 17<sup>th</sup> St. #G

Costa Mesa, CA 92627

Office: (949)631-7348 Fax: (949)722-6190

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## These Termites Are Even Worse Than I Thought!

You know I'm always telling people in our area to take care of their homes and have them fumigated on a regular basis to minimize damage. Well, I'm here to tell you that these termites have absolutely no respect for me. It's as if they are paying me back for killing so many termites all of these years!

My wife and I moved into our house after we got married in June of 1990. We needed a garage, so we had a new one built from scratch. Six years later, I noticed the paint was starting to flake off, so I decided to re-paint the wood trim on the garage. When I went to re-paint the trim, I discovered the fascia had been badly damaged by drywood termites. **I couldn't even believe how much damage occurred in only six years!** Don't they know who I am? I am the termite exterminator!! But, the termites don't care and I wound up replacing all of the fascia and fumigating my entire house.

In 2010, I noticed termite droppings in the garage, so fumigated my house, again.

Just recently, we decided the garage needed some fresh paint. But, when we started to re-paint it, we discovered that the fascia was termite damaged. We had already fumed the house, so the termites were all dead. But, the fascia all had to be replaced, again. That's twice in only 20 years!

Ladies and gentlemen, my garage is living proof of how bad these drywood termites are in our area. I know you're busy and it is easy to keep putting off taking care of your home. But, I'm also telling you, from first hand experience, that procrastination will cost you a lot of time and money. Has it been two or more years since you had your home inspected? If so, **call us at (949) 631-7348 - It's time to call us for a termite inspection.**



"Termite" Terry Singleton