

"TERMITE" TERRY'S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

September 2017



www.termiteterry.com

(949) 631-7348

"Home of Your Ironclad, Money-Back Guarantee"

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Drywood Termites 101

A lot of people in Orange County have started calling us because they are finding hundreds, or even thousands of drywood termites, flying in and around their homes and businesses.

The reason why we are getting so many calls is that it is mating season for drywood termites. These termites work year-round inside the wood members of structures, and they stay hidden most of the time. Many people don't even know they have a problem until the termites start swarming during this time of year.

This article is for owners who want to know what to look for, and those who want to learn how to protect what is probably their largest investment.

What is a drywood termite?

Drywood termites belong to the family *Kalotermitidae* and while they are similar to subterranean termites, their ecology and behavior are distinctly different. The Western Drywood termite is the most common specie in Orange County. They are about ½ inch long, dark brown, with smoky black wings, and they have a reddish-brown head.

Many owners confuse ants with termites. To avoid this confusion, take a close look at the insect with a magnifying glass. Drywood termites have two pairs of equal length wings, which are almost twice as long as the body.

Whereas, the wings on an ant are not much longer than its body, and one pair is obviously shorter than the other.

Another way to distinguish an ant from a termite, is to take a close look at their bodies. Termites appear to have only two body parts – a head and an abdomen. Ants, on the other hand, have three distinctive body parts (head, thorax and abdomen) and you will also see an obvious pinched-waist between the abdomen and thorax.

Why do drywood termites swarm?

Drywood termites swarm because it is part of their mating ritual. They usually swarm in Orange County during the months of September and October.

Swarming is triggered by bright sunlight and temperatures of over 80 degrees Fahrenheit. It is quite common to see swarms of these pests flying in and around homes and businesses this time of the year, because they are looking for new locations to start their colonies.

If you see a swarm of termites at your home, does it mean you have a problem?

Drywood termites are flying everywhere during this season and many owners will see them on the outside of their home or floating in a swimming pool. Termites will also occasionally fly through open doors and windows. The sighting of termites, in these instances, does not necessarily indicate that you have an infestation.

What happens to these swarming termites?

Fortunately, drywood termites are extremely poor fliers,
(turn the page)

90 Years Ago . . .

September 7, 1927, Philo Farnsworth, demonstrated the world's first fully electronic television system in San Francisco. As a boy, he worked on a farm and the idea of scanning an image as a series of lines came from plowing fields.

The Coach With 11 NBA World Titles

"Approach the game with no preset agendas and you'll probably come away surprised at your overall efforts."

Phil Jackson, born September 17th, 1945

Rave Reviews!

"I am very pleased with Termite Terry Pest Control. Eric Chavez, the technician, was very thorough in explaining the process of pest extermination, doing a highly professional job. I would highly recommend the business to everyone."

Joseph Chow
Irvine

"I have used many pest control companies but none compare to Termite Terry Pest Control. The guys are very knowledgeable and make sure to take their time while spraying at my house. Most companies I have used in the past are always in such a rush to get in and out, but Termite Terry makes sure to get every inch of my house and then take their time to explain everything they have done and why they did it. I highly recommend them for any and all of your pest control needs!"

Joey Cusick
Mission Viejo

"I want to thank you for your excellent customer service and attention to detail in following up with my concerns. I appreciate that you could make a visit to assist me the same day that I called in! I recommend your services to others who need to resolve their pest issues."

Naomi Chiba
Laguna Hills

"I was using Termite Terry for damaged wood repairs only. Skip's estimate was good, and they fit me into an available time slot, on an earlier date than quoted. Jose's crew did a great job! They were friendly, neat and tidy, and got it done quick. Thanks so much for fitting me in!"

Tony Zarinelli
Aliso Viejo

and most of them will start settling down after they fly for just a few feet. A majority of these termites will fall prey to birds, reptiles or other insects. Many of the others will die of dehydration or injury.

After the swarmers land, they shed their wings, begin the mating process, and start looking for a piece of wood to enter. Cracks, knot holes, or joints between pieces of wood are the easiest access points.

The king and queen will remain in their small nest and build up the colony. Drywood termite colonies are usually small, but when you combine multiple colonies in a single piece of wood, you may have over 10,000 members. When there are that many termites, eating 24 hours a day for 365 days a year, you're going to start seeing a substantial amount of damage.

What are the signs of a drywood termite infestation?

If you see large numbers of drywood termite swarmers inside of a home, attic, garage, or subarea, an infestation is likely to be located somewhere within the structure.

Termite fecal droppings are a strong indicator of an infestation. Drywood termite droppings are oval shaped, have six sides, and are about the size of a grain of sand. From time to time, these termites are known to clean out the galleries where they work and their droppings will fall directly below the kick-out hole.

Termite damaged wood can also be a strong sign of a problem. You may not always see live termites in these areas because in many cases, they have moved on to other locations to eat or for protection.

How can you get rid of drywood termites?

When you see evidence of drywood termites, the first thing you should do is order a thorough inspection of the structure.

If the area of infestation can be located and it is fully accessible, a localized/spot treatment of the area may be all you need to have done.

Localized treatments are performed by drilling small holes in the infested wood members and injecting a termiticide into the termite galleries.

If the infestation extends into areas that cannot be seen or accessed, an all encompassing type of treatment, such as fumigation, will probably be needed.

What should you do if one company says you need a spot treatment and another calls for a fumigation?

This is a common problem that many owners face. The answer is easy; if the area cannot be fully inspected and is not fully accessible for treatment, a fumigation is probably needed.

What should I know before I hire a fumigator?

Not all fumigations are created equal and if you are going to do it, it must be done properly.

The first thing you need to ask any fumigator is, "How much gas are you going to use?"

There are a number of factors which must be calculated to determine how much gas is needed. One of the most important factors is the size of your home. Always insist on an accurate measurement, and you should carefully review the fumigator's math. The size of your home greatly determines the amount of gas needed. Please note that if enough gas is not applied, your fumigation will fail and you will have wasted all your money.

You should also inspect the quality of the fumigator's equipment, especially the condition of their fumigation tarps. If they are old, torn and ragged, you already know that your fumigation will probably fail.

At Termite Terry, we'll get rid of all your termites or your treatment is FREE!

People ask us all the time, "How can you offer a guarantee like that when no one else will?" The

answer to that is the one extra “secret” step we take to insure the success of all of our fumigations:

We use a Fumiscope and take a final reading before we finish the job

That’s right! About 20 to 24 hours after the gas has been in the structure, we use a Fumiscope, and measure the gas concentration levels. If the amount of gas left inside of the tent is correct, then we know that your termites are gone. On the other hand, if we took a reading and the amount of gas was incorrect, we’d add more gas and continue the process until we knew your job was successful.

This “secret” step takes out all of the guesswork. Why do so many of the other termite companies continue to play “guessing games” with their fumigations? Don’t know the answer to that. Maybe it is because this “secret” step takes extra time, and the special equipment we use is very expensive.

Do you have a termite problem and need help? **Call us at (949) 631-7348** and we’ll be happy to schedule an inspection at your convenience.

Fleas Tested Positive For The Plague

Two counties in Arizona have found fleas carrying the bubonic plague. This is an infectious disease that took the lives of millions during the Middle Ages.

The discovery of plague carrying fleas in Arizona follows three confirmed human cases in New Mexico, earlier this year.

Officials first became aware of this problem in early August, when a resident complained that prairie dogs were dropping dead on his property in Williams, Arizona. Plague infected fleas were found to be the cause.

A week later, plague carrying fleas

were found in neighboring Navajo County.

To help prevent being exposed to the plague, the Centers for Disease Control recommends that you use an insect repellent containing DEET when camping, hiking, or working outdoors.

Always avoid areas of known rodent activity. They also say that you should never handle wild animals without wearing gloves.

President’s Economic Stimulus

Everyone in Washington D.C. is taking a vacation and nothing is getting done there. President Termite Terry says it’s time for everyone to get back to work and start using his plan to get our economy moving again.

Here are just a few more of your fellow citizens who have benefited from his Economic Stimulus Plan:

- Upen Shah of Irvine referred our service to Hansa Patel of Chino Hills.
- Diane and Steve Byers of Newport Beach referred us to Carol Dore of Newport Beach.
- Brian Solo of Laguna Beach referred our service to Aimee Dixon of Laguna Beach.
- Justin Vaicek of Newport Beach referred us to Tracy McCarthy of Newport Beach.

The President’s plan is easy and with your help, we can **double the number of people who get FREE GAS each month**. All you have to do is simply refer us to someone who needs a termite treatment, wood repairs, or a monthly pest control service. And, if they hire us, we’ll send you a **\$50.00 Gas Card**. That is real economic stimulation you can bank on!

National Chicken Month

September is National Chicken Month. So, let’s take a look at some fun facts about these fine feathered birds:

- The average American eats over 90 pounds of chicken per year. It is the number one protein consumed in the US.
- The US has the largest broiler chicken industry in the world, and we export about 19% of our production to other countries.
- Chickens may live 10-15 years, depending on the breed. The world’s oldest chicken was a hen that lived to the age of 16.
- It takes a hen about 24-26 hours to lay an egg, and they can lay about 300 eggs per year.
- In 2015, more than 40 billion pounds of chicken product was marketed, measured on a ready-to-cook basis.
- There are more chickens living on earth than people.
- In Gainesville, Georgia, it is only legal to eat chicken with your bare hands. People have been arrested for using a fork! Gainesville is the Poultry Capital of the World.
- According to the National Chicken Council, less than 1% of chickens nationwide are raised as free range.
- Chicken consumption per capita has increased nearly every year since the mid 1960’s, while red meat consumption has steadily declined.
- Our modern domesticated chickens are all descendents of the red jungle fowl of India and Southeast Asia. They have been domesticated for at least 4,000 years.
- The National Chicken Council was established in 1954. One of their first promotions was a recipe featuring baked frying chicken, biscuits, gravy, and broiled peaches. Wow, doesn’t that sound good!

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**“You’re Going To Love Living In A Pest Free Home.
I Guarantee It.”**

Student Throws An Apple And Starts A Killer Bee Attack

Close to 100 high school students were attacked by a swarm of killer bees after a student threw an apple at a beehive.

Officials say that 56 victims of the attack had to be transported to the hospital, while 38 other students were treated at the scene. Several school staff members were also stung.

The students were waiting in line for lunch when one of them threw an apple at the bee hive, and it fell to the ground. Reports say that the bees had built the hive in the lunch area over the summer.

A deputy was monitoring the campus when he saw a number of students running away. As he ran toward the area, he discovered the swarm of bees and immediately directed all students to go back to their classrooms.

“Once he threw the apple, the beehive fell down. Everybody started running. I dropped my backpack and booked it to the office and I got stung on the head,” said one of the students. When he got to the office door, he witnessed another student who had at least 30 bees on his body.

Fire fighters sprayed the area with foam, and local beekeepers were called in to help gain control.

“The biggest concern, of course, with bee stings is anaphylaxis or allergic reactions to them,” said the assistant fire chief. “Wheezing, respiratory difficulties and/or reactions like hives, or anything like that.”

Ladies and gentlemen, if you see a beehive in a place like this, it is a good idea to leave it alone and call a professional. Not all bees are created equal . . . some of them may even kill you!



“Termite” Terry Singleton