

“TERMITE” TERRY’S INSIDER INFORMATION

TOP SECRET

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(949) 631-7348

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How To Fight Back Against Mosquitoes

Due to the heavy rainfall and summer heat, the mosquito populations are increasing in Orange County, and many homeowners are suffering from painful mosquito bites.

The good news is that you don’t just have to sit back and take it anymore. In this article, you will learn some steps you can take to fight back against these pests.

The two mosquitoes of concern in Orange County

In Orange County, the two mosquito *genera* of concern are the *Aedes*, and the *Culex*.

1. The *Culex genera* is also known as the “Southern House Mosquito”. These are small, brown mosquitoes, and they are generally active during dawn and dusk. They prefer to feed on small mammals, but will bite people when other animals are not nearby. The females lay their eggs in rafts on the surfaces of large bodies of organically rich, stagnant water. Some places you’ll find them breeding are in ponds, green pools, and rain gutters. *Culex* are known to transmit West Nile virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, and Western Equine Encephalitis.
2. The *Aedes genera* is also known as the “Asian Tiger Mosquito”, or “Ankle-Biter”. These are small, and have noticeable black and white markings on their bodies and legs. *Aedes* are active during the day, and prefer to feed on humans. The females lay their eggs along the sides of containers, such as buckets, drip

trays for potted plants, tires, and other places where water can collect and become stagnant. It is interesting to note that these eggs will lay dormant for several years, and can hatch when conditions are right and water is present. *Aedes* are known to transmit Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya, Yellow fever, and Dog Heartworm.

Important mosquito facts

- Mosquitos need water to complete their life cycle. From egg to adult, their development will take about 7-10 days.
- A large portion of mosquitoes are produced in residential backyards, in small breeding sources.
- A small bottle cap can hold enough water to produce mosquitoes!
- Only the female bites.
- Mosquitoes do not develop in grass or shrubbery. However, they will sometimes rest in those areas during the day.

Twelve Steps you can take to fight back against mosquitoes

1. Dump and drain any containers that hold water at least once a week.
2. Cover empty containers, or turn them upside down so they won’t collect water.

(turn the page)

70 Years Ago ...

On July 7, 1954, Elvis Presley had his radio debut. Radio disc jockey, Dewey Phillips, played Presley’s first single “That’s all right” on WHBQ in Memphis Tennessee. This hit single was later released on July 19, 1954.

Celebrating Henry Ford

“Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it.”

Henry Ford, born July 30, 1863

Rave Reviews!

"Greetings to Terry Singleton and the crew at Termite Terry. Just wanted to thank you so much for the \$50 Shell gas card! So nice and thoughtful, you didn't have to do that!"

Christina Moore
Laguna Beach

"Great job. Responsive, honest, gave us a thorough run through of what we needed. They were able to schedule the work quickly and the guys that came out did a great job treating the areas but also doing the woodwork on the repairs."

Cori Takkinen
Newport Beach

"A+ rating for Termite Terry. Friendly, professional and thorough. Our home was treated for termites four years ago and Terry came out for a reinspection. No signs of termites and no charge for the visit!"

Charles Potamkin
Newport Beach

"We had a rodent issue and were initially working with a different company when they all of the sudden went radio silent and never returned our calls. Thankfully, we were assigned a new company and shortly after, we met Termite Terry. Terry did not rush any of his visits and made sure he covered every possible surface to help expedite our situation. He came up with a six-week program to make sure the problem was solved, and he showed up to every single appointment exactly on the dot. Today was the last visit and we are officially rodent free!!!"

Meg Tamrazian
Laguna Beach

3. Drain bird baths, containers, pots, and pet bowls on a weekly basis. Scrub them clean as needed.
4. Drain the water from plant saucers on a weekly basis.
5. Clean your rain gutters and make sure they are draining properly.
6. If you have rain barrels, cover them with tight screening to keep mosquitoes out.
7. Dispose of old tires and debris that may collect water.
8. If you have unused pools or spas that contain water, contact the Orange County Vector Control District. They will put mosquito fish in these, usually at no charge.
9. Sump pumps should be covered with tight screening.
10. Close all unscreened doors and windows to help keep mosquitoes out. Repair or replace damaged screens.
11. Use a mosquito repellent when going outdoors, and reapply as recommended.
12. Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Lighter colored clothing is best.

These twelve steps will go a long way in helping you fight back against these pests. If you still are having a problem with mosquitoes in your yard, **call us at (949) 631-7348**. We have new mosquito services that will help you to take your yard back, and make your summer more enjoyable.

New Drywood Termite Treatment Discovered

Scientists at UC Riverside have discovered a highly effective, nontoxic, and less expensive way to lure termites to their demise.

This new treatment method was recently featured in the Journal of Economic Entomology. It uses a pleasant-smelling chemical released by forest trees, called pinene. The scent from this chemical will remind western drywood termites of the food they like, and they will follow the scent to a spot where this insecticide

was injected into the wood.

"We saw significant differences in the death rates using insecticide alone versus the insecticide plus pinene," said UCR entomologist Dong-Hwan Choe, who led the discovery. "Without pinene, we got about 70% mortality. When we added it in, it was over 95%."

The western drywood termite is native to North America. This termite's job is to consume dead trees, and turn them into a fertilizer for the forest soil. The problem we have is that this termite is unable to distinguish between a dead tree and the wood we use to build homes.

Fumigation with sulfuryl fluoride is one of the most common methods used for controlling these termites. When performed properly, a fumigation can eliminate 100% of all drywood termites.

Unfortunately, there are some homes that aren't always easy to fumigate, such as apartments, and condominiums. That is because it can be difficult to get all of the residents to pick a date, and have everyone move out for three days and two nights. Having an alternative treatment method for situations like these, could prove to be very useful.

"This is a more localized treatment, and in theory, it is a better strategy when you want to control drywood termites with fewer chemicals. It's less expensive, and the treated wood may also stay protected from future infestations," Dr. Choe said.

One of the problems we have, when doing localized treatments, is finding the exact location of where the termites are living. With the products we currently use, they have to be injected into the precise areas where the termites will come in contact with them. In other words, if you miss the spot, the insects will not be affected by the product.

When using an attractant like

pinene, it will help to eliminate the need to find the exact location of where the termites are living. "Even at low concentrations, pinene is good at attracting termites from a distance," Dr. Choe said.

There is a lot of research that still needs to be done. Let's hope that all goes well on this project so we will soon have an effective treatment alternative.



Trim Your Trees To Help Keep Rats Out!

The population of rats in Orange County is exploding and many homeowners are experiencing infestations as never before.

Some of you may think we're exaggerating when we talk about rodent populations increasing. So, for any of you "Doubting Thomases" out there, please consider these two facts:

1. We have had a lot of rainfall over the past two years. Our heavy rainfall has led to an increase in vegetation growth, and that means the rodents will have plenty to eat this year.
2. Did you know that a female rat can mate and have up to 15,000 descendants in a single year?

In our experience, a majority of rodent infestations in home are caused by trees and vines that are growing over a roof. And, once they get on a roof, there are numerous ways for them to get inside your home – especially if you have a tile roof.

The Orange County Vector Control District recommends that you cut all trees back at least five feet away from your roof, with no branches hanging over. Vines and shrubs should be cut so they are three feet below the roof line.

This is great advice and it may save you a fortune in repair costs.

President's Economic Stimulus

The OPEC members have decided to phase out 2.2 million barrels of oil production per day. Their goal is to raise the price of oil and gas. President Termite Terry "feels your pain" and wants to help by giving you a FREE tank of gas.

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

- Steve Konczak of Costa Mesa referred us to his sister, Maria Konczak, of Costa Mesa.
- Shaun Widney of San Juan Capistrano recommended our service to Phaedra Widney of San Juan Capistrano.
- Erik Peterson on Huntington Beach referred us to Jamshid Foroushani of Huntington Beach.
- Carol Dore of Newport Beach recommended our services to Cathy Vu of Irvine.

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!

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National Blueberry Month

July is National Blueberry Month, so let's take a look at some fun facts about one of our favorite fruits:

- The blueberry is native to North America.
 - The U.S. is the world's largest blueberry producer. Our highest producing state is Washington.
 - In the U.S., per capita consumption of blueberries has more than tripled since the early 2,000s!
 - A half-cup of blueberries contains just 44 calories but has 2 grams of dietary fiber, and 10% of your daily recommended vitamin C content.
 - One blueberry bush can produce up to 6,000 blueberries per year.
 - Blueberries have a silvery sheen on their skin, and this is a naturally occurring compound that helps to protect the fruit. That is why you should only wash the berries right before you eat them.
 - There are two types of blueberries: (1) Highbush blueberries are the types you find at the grocery store, (2) Lowbush blueberries are smaller, sweeter berries that are used for processing into juices, jams, muffin mixes, and so on.
 - Blueberries were called "star fruits" by our Native Americans because the blossom end of each berry forms a perfect five-pointed star.
 - Blueberries can be used as a natural dye.
 - The world's record for the heaviest blueberry is 16.2 grams. This berry was grown in Wilbinga, Australia, and it was about 1.4 inches in diameter!
 - During WWI, pilots in the British Royal Airforce would eat blueberry preserves before their night missions because they believed it would improve their night vision.
- Are you ready for a dumb joke?
Question: Where did Fats Domino get his favorite fruit?
Answer: On Blueberry Hill! ☺

A FREE Monthly Newsletter for Friends and Clients of:

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I Guarantee It."**

Woman Is Swallowed Whole By A Python!

A missing woman was found by the police after her body was discovered inside of a massive snake.

The 45-year-old Indonesian woman failed to come home on Thursday night, so the local police began their search for her on the following day. During the search, her husband became suspicious when he found her belongings on the ground. The searchers then started to focus their attention on this immediate area, and that is when they spotted a reticulated python with a large belly. A decision was made to cut open the python's stomach. Once they opened it, the woman's head was immediately visible. Her body was still fully clothed, while inside of the 16-foot-long snake.

Her husband later regretted letting her go out on her own. He said, "If I had been with her that day, the snake would not have dared to touch her. I feel sorry for the suffering she went through. I am sorry for our family."

Reticulated pythons are indigenous to Indonesia, the Philippines, India, and Borneo. It is the world's longest snake, and the third heaviest after the green anaconda and Burmese python. These snakes are typically 10-20 feet in length. The largest ever reported was 32 feet long, and weighed 350 pounds.

Reticulated pythons are among the few snakes that prey on humans, and at least eight other humans have been eaten by these snakes in the last twenty years.

I'm kind of glad we don't have to worry about these snakes in California. Have you ever thought about hiking in South and Southeast Asia? If so, you had better be prepared or you might wind up as a lunch for one of these monsters – you know they do like to eat "whole food"! ☺



"Termite" Terry Singleton