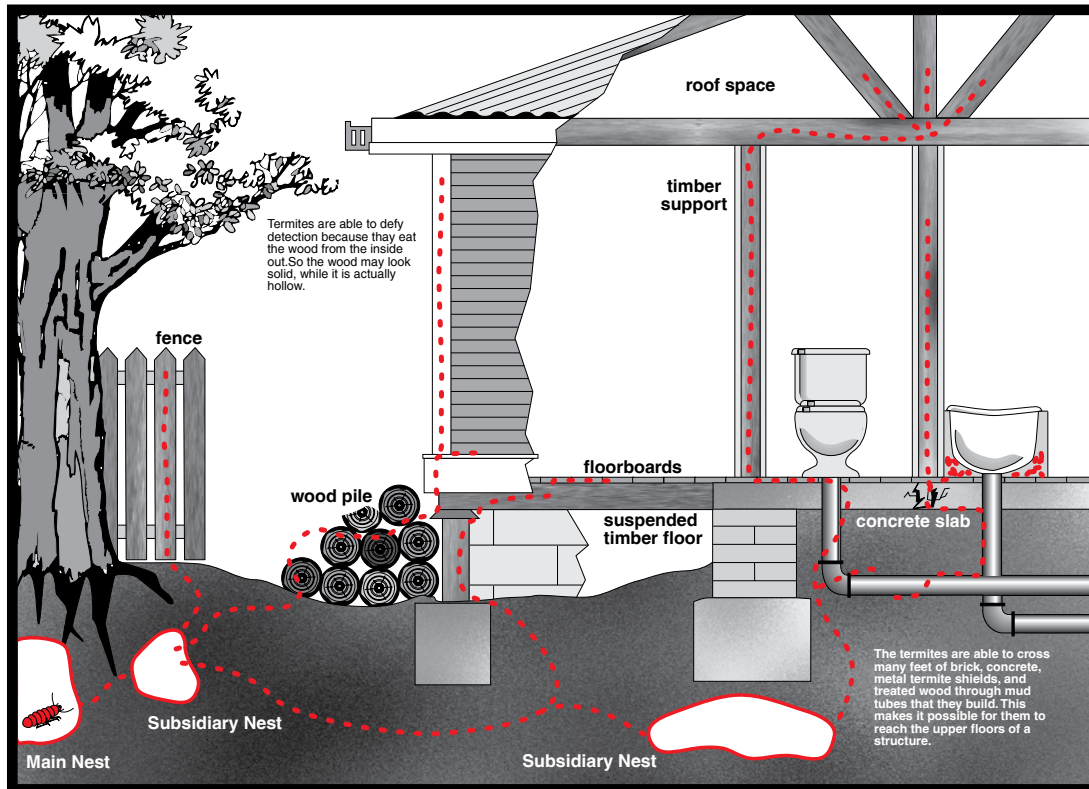


How TERMITES ENTER YOUR HOME



Precautions you must take to reduce the risk of termite attack

Timber stacked against the structure

As you can see in the picture, any timbers or debris stacked against the outside of the house, or similarly inside on a soil floor, can be used as a bridge by subterranean termites to transverse the termiticide barrier. These situations should be remedied as soon as possible.

Fence palings and/or house battens penetrating the soil surface

Often the bases of timber fence palings and/or house battens penetrate the soil surface, resulting in attack from decay fungi and subterranean termites. Battens and/or palings should be sawn off at the base leaving a minimum of 50mm clearance between the soil and the base.

Dead trees and/or stumps

A favoured nesting sight for subterranean termites, dead trees and stumps should be removed or treated as they pose an unnecessary risk to your structure.

Climbing plants and/or garden beds

Climbing plants and/or thick vegetation growing against the side of your structure provide concealed entry points for subterranean termites. In addition the roots of some plants can grow in to the foundations of a structure. These roots can be excavated by termites and used as a way to penetrate an existing termiticide barrier. These situations should be remedied by clearing plants away from the structure, leaving a clearance of approx. 30cm, and installing root barriers 30cm out from the structures foundation.

Leaking water fittings and/or plumbing

Leaking fittings and/or plumbing is one of the main factors in attracting subterranean termites to your structure, particularly in dryer areas. All leaks should be remedied as soon as possible.

Substandard drainage

In all geographical locations, moisture build-up caused by substandard drainage and open ended down pipes etc., is the main contributing factor in subterranean termites nesting close to or within structures. Drainage problems should be remedied as soon as possible.

Substandard ventilation

Substandard ventilation, resulting in high humidity and moisture build up provides a perfect nesting environment for wood decay fungi and subterranean termites as well as severely damaging timber flooring from moisture expansion. These situations should be remedied as soon as possible.

Tilling garden beds

After a termiticide barrier is installed around the perimeter of your structure, the tilling of garden beds should be carried out with great care as disturbance or removal of the soil within 30cm from the structure will result in barrier breach, allowing subterranean termites to penetrate the barrier. Any breaches to a barrier should be repaired immediately.

Termite Management

Drywood, Dampwood and Subterranean Termites are located throughout many regions of Australia. They are a natural part of the environment. When pests such as subterranean termites attack 'timber in service' the damage they create can be severe.

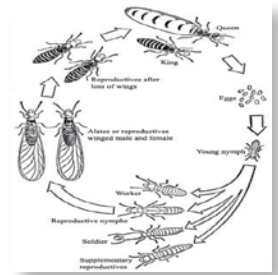


Pest Status

Subterranean termites cause millions of dollars worth of damage to 'timber in service' and structures annually. These timber pests are an owner's worst nightmare when they are first located or their damage detected. One in three houses throughout Australia are affected by termites.

Identification and Life Cycle

Subterranean termites are small and vary in size from 5 to 10mm. They appear white and have a gradual metamorphosis with three developmental stages in the life cycle – Egg, Nymph, and Adult.



The life cycle of subterranean termites varies depending on weather patterns, food availability and vigour of the colony. Under natural conditions the development period from egg to adult may range from 2-4 months.

There are several distinct castes (forms) within a termite colony, each one performing a particular task for the survival of the colony. Winged reproductive adults (alates) fly from the termite colony during the humid rainfall season in what is termed a "colonising flight", to establish a new termite colony, occurring Nov/Dec through to Feb/Mar.

After this 'colonising flight' the female (Queen) then begins to lay eggs in decaying timber in moist soil. These eggs are first laid in small batches, which both the adult male (King) and female care for. The task of caring for the developing nymphs later becomes the role of Worker termites. The egg production continues for many years, and as the termite colony increases in population, so does the requirement for food. Soldier termites defend the termite colony from intruders. Abundant Worker termites forage for food and moisture, which is then fed onto other castes within the colony.

Food and Habitat

A number of subterranean termite species are grass and debris feeders. However there are termites which consume cellulose, starches and sugars obtained from wooden structures which they require in their diet. These termite species are of high economic threat to the degradation of trees and timbers used in building construction.

Management and Treatment

Management and treatment of termites is best achieved through an integrated pest management approach. The main options include habitat modification, pre-construction and post-construction treatments.

Habitat Modification

Habitat modification involves altering the environment to make conditions less conducive for termites to ingress into buildings. In a practical sense, this involves the removal of unwanted tree stumps, stored timber items around or under houses and diverting unwanted moisture away from buildings.

Termite Management and Treatments

There are various management and treatment methods available to control subterranean termites, and one to suit your particular need can be advised after a site assessment by a Qualified Timber Pest Technician.

The aim is to prevent subterranean termites from gaining access into the buildings. Effective management and treatment of termites is only achieved through a team effort between you and your Amalgamated Pest Control Timber Pest Technician.

For more information about a Termite Management Plan and Treatment Options call your local Amalgamated Pest Control Office today and arrange an inspection or site assessment. - **Call 13 19 61 today**

Why Choose Amalgamated Pest Control?

- With over 80 years of industry experience we can provide the solutions to your pest management challenges.
- Our customers come first - We provide prompt service. While the others are arranging, we're doing.
- After-sales service is a priority. Once a treatment is completed, we stand by our work with a free service warranty backup. Should the need arise, a prompt on-call service applies for the entire warranty period.
- Our field technicians carry the latest specialised equipment designed to achieve the safest and most effective application possible. Our treatment methods have proved to be the most successful control measures available.
- We are a quality assured company to ISO9001:2000.
- We are comprehensively insured for your peace of mind.
- An Amalgamated Pest Control Management Program means more than just applying pesticides. We have field supervisors and national technical support available for expert advice on pests and pest management.
- The pesticides used are environmentally friendly and the safest available. Continual testing and research ensures that the latest developments are implemented with your interests in mind.
- We have extensive industry involvement at all levels, and active working relationships with our industry association (AEPMA), State and Federal Government bodies covering Health, WorkCover, Forestry, Primary Industries and Employment and Training.
- We can provide your complete pest management solution.

Our services include:

- o All general household and commercial pests including rodents
- o Mosquito and biting Midge Management
- o Termites and other timber pests
- o Bird and fly management
- o Specialist compliance in HACCP and AQIS systems

Local Branch:



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