

TERMITE CONTROL

In Southern California “drywood” termites are usually found swarming during the period from August 15th to October 15th. These dates may vary slightly depending on the weather.

Lumber shipped to a jobsite that is within ¼ mile from older houses, older trees, or debris piles containing wood, is the most likely target. The termite will migrate about ¼ mile, unless favorable winds provide momentum to go further.

All species of wood can be attacked, but the probability for redwood and cedar is much less than others. The redwood attacks are usually limited to the sapwood areas.

The attacks of the drywood termite are frequently in the construction state of a building. As a result the infested area can be treated by brushing or spraying an acceptable termiticide on the exposed material.

Any termiticide with “Dursban” as a part of its ingredients would be useable. There are probably a lot of others as well, but that chemical is particular effective.

From hundreds of alates, only one pair may result. This pair may start a colony, which will contain approximately 2600 individuals after 10 to 15 years. The subterranean variety can produce a colony of similar size in a matter of days.

The drywood termite, because of the colonization rate, is generally mentioned briefly in publications on entomology. The small area of attack, the visibility of the area, and the resultant ease of control is the apparent reason for this. Recent reports have indicated that the adult termite cannot withstand as much heat as formerly thought, so this may help the situation as well.

Although it is generally thought that the termite comes with the lumber, it is more correct to say that the termite comes after the lumber. Very few lumber yards ever experience termites in the yard. The treatment techniques are effective and the possibility of damage is slight.

This information is designed for general educational purposes and is not intended to serve as legal or construction information. Additionally, this information is not health or medical information. Legal, construction or medical questions should be referred to appropriate professionals.

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