

Calypso Pest News

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Subterranean Termites Swarming

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Subterranean termites live in underground colonies. Formosan, a type of subterranean termite can live above ground in carton nests they construct. Termites feed on cellulose, any plant-based material including live and dead trees, wood, paper, and cardboard. The colony comprises of a king, a queen - the primary reproductive, soldiers, workers, and reproductives (swarmers). The reproductives, both males and females swarm from the colony once light, food, temperature, and moisture conditions are conducive to start new colonies.

Swarming usually occur during the middle of the day after it rains, except for the Formosan termite that swarms in the evening hours. Eastern subterranean termite, the most popular termite in Florida, swarms January or February to May and again in October. Swarmers are black with clear wings with two darkened veins at the top of the wings. They are weak fliers and usually fall to the ground soon after flight and shed their wings. They are attracted to light and can be found around windows, doors, lamps, and other light sources.

Most termite swarmers do not survive to mate and start a new colony as they are preyed upon by ants, spiders, geckos, frogs, and birds. A large swarm of winged termites in and around your home is a certain sign that termites are swarming. De-winged termites crawling around on the floor and shed wings are clear indication that termites have swarmed. Also, the presence of exit holes in the wall indicates that termites have swarmed. Do not confuse termite swarmers with ant swarmers. Termite swarmers have two pairs of identical size wings while the fore wings of ant swarmers are larger than the back wings.

If you notice termites swarming around or in your home, save a few swarmers and wings and note where you find them and call the experts at Calypso for a prompt and speedy resolution.

January Special

Refer a friend and get 20% discount off your next pest service when your friend signs a one year pest service agreement.

Pest Control Tip of the Month

- Roaches like to come out of hiding at night. Keep garbage bins securely fastened. Tie bags and remove garbage from kitchen each night.



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Termites ~ WDO Inspections ~ Household Pests

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