

Localized Treatment for the Control of Drywood Termite Infestation

By Tony Angelo, Angelo Termite

Ascertaining the presence of wood-destroying pests and organisms (like termites, fungus, and dry-rot) and the extent of damage they cause is only performed through escrow. Without the benefits of periodic inspections and annual maintenance, the potential for dry-wood termites and subsequent inspections almost invariably results in recommendations for fumigations.

This recommendation includes occupant inconvenience, high cost of fumigation, potential roof damage, possible landscape damage and the expense of temporarily vacating the occupants for a 54-hour process. While localized treatments are not designed for whole house eradications, they make up over 70% of all control methods used for the past 30 years. The effectiveness of localized treatments has grown through advances in chemical products and inspection performance.

This article attempts to provide an explanation of the advantages and disadvantages of localized treatments as op-

posed to fumigation. It also will clarify the Structural Pest Control Board's definition of the acceptable parameters of localized treatments. A responsible company can determine infestation and damage and make the necessary repairs, as well as initiate a maintenance service.

It is a common misconception that winged termites fly from one area to another during the swarming periods. They actually transport themselves through thermal guidance provided by prevailing air currents. The colonies will swarm and re-infest within the same area, or relocate in the susceptible areas of adjacent structures. While fumigation is an initial solution, it does not combat re-infestation. Localized treatments involve

Preliminary surveys are determined upon the following criteria:

- The age and location of the structure;
- If the structure has been fumigated in the past;
- Accessibility of areas of infestation;
- The practicality of removing and replacing damaged wood.

the injection of pesticides directly into the infested channels of the timbers created by the termites themselves, as well as the topical application of toxic chemicals. This is commonly known as "drill and treatment." This process not only controls the colony itself, but also provides a barrier against re-infestation in a specific area.

As stated by the Structural Pest Control Board, accessible areas are those able to be physically reached for hand treatment. Known infestations, noted on termite reports as IA (inaccessible), will be opened and exposed for further inspection, and a supplemental report will be issued to the Structural Pest Control Board with findings and recommendations. Preliminary surveys are determined upon the following criteria:

- The age and location of the structure;
- If the structure has been fumigated in the past;
- Accessibility of areas of infestation;
- The practicality of removing and replacing damaged wood.

One of the major inroads now available is a maintenance service utilizing a drill and treatment method, followed with an injection of Drione to all accessible attic areas. This is done to minimize re-infestation. When appropriately performed, these are recognized by the Structural Pest Control Board as a primary recommendation.

The document titled "Notice of Work Completed" and "Not Completed with Necessary Warranties and Required Certification Clause," is accepted by lenders to proceed with financing to close escrow.

The goal for the concerned consumer is to control termite infestations, provide maintenance and prevent structural damage. The interest of the responsible parties is best served by utilizing the format offered by competent people qualified to issue necessary warranty and certification on all work.

Serving Southern California for 30 years!

"SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S MOST QUALIFIED & EXPERIENCED TERMITE & STRUCTURAL RESTORATION FIRM"

TERMITE TREATMENTS PERFORMED OVER 200,000

PROPERTY INSPECTIONS PERFORMED OVER 250,000

STRUCTURAL RESTORATIONS PERFORMED OVER 150,000

Call for Free Inspection & Report!
(If clear report - \$100 fee)




ANGELO
TERMITE & CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

www.AngeloTermite.com
Structural Pest Control License # PR4687
B-General Building Contractor License # 913579




800-589-8809
FAX 877-595-4313



You earned it. Use it.

Display the REALTOR® "R" logo on your business card and stationery.