

Homeowners Guide To Do-It-Yourself Termite Baiting



With
HomeChoice[®] Termite
Detector Stations

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Satisfaction Guaranteed: Your HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations are guaranteed to your complete satisfaction. If you are not completely satisfied with the use and function of your detectors, you may return them, unused for a replacement or a full refund within 30 days of purchase.

Refunds: If you desire to return your HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors for a refund, please return them within 30 days of the date of purchase to the place of purchase. The HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors must be unused, and in the original package and in resellable condition.

Returns: If you need to return your HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors for warranty replacement, please ship them directly back to us. **Do not return them to the place of purchase.** Please call us toll free at 1-877-500-0011 before shipment to receive a return goods authorization number (RGA). Send to:

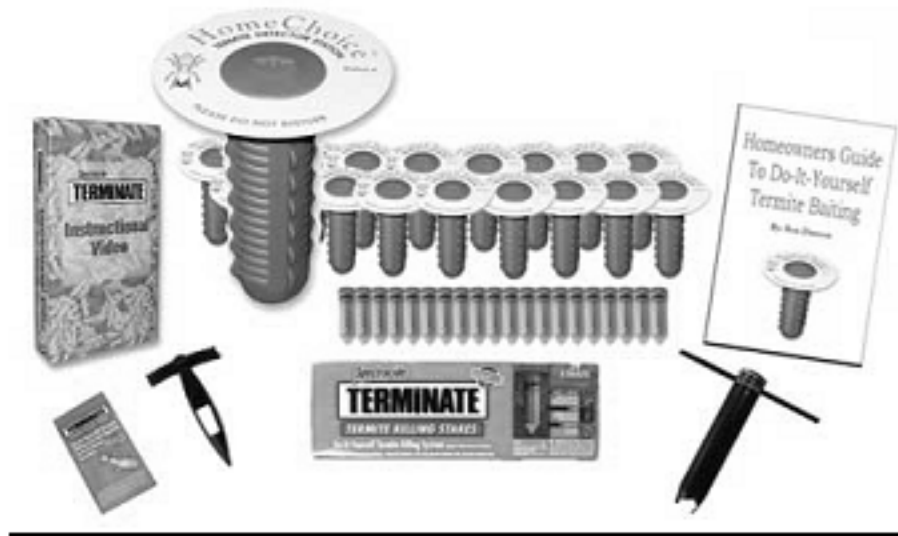
**ePestSupply.com
10875 Plano Rd. #105
Dallas, Texas 75238**

Be sure to attach your name, address and the reason for the return on the back of your original receipt. Returns will not be accepted on HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors that have been used or damaged by the customer.

Terminate ® Termite Stakes warranties or claims are handled through Spectrum Corporation, St. Louis, Missouri

Important
Please Read This Guide Carefully
Before Installing This System

HomeChoice 20/20 Kit Contains:



20 HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations
20 HomeChoice NumbeRings™
20 Terminate Stakes
1 Installation Video
1 Terminate Installation Tool
1 HomeChoice Detector Installation Tool
2 Lid Keys
Inspection Sheets
Structural Graph Sheets
Guide To Termite Baiting

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Spectrum Corporation - St. Louis, Missouri, - USA

Thank you for your purchase of The HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors.

The HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Station was developed as a professional quality alternative to high priced termite baiting systems. HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors give homeowners and building owners the opportunity to detect, and with Terminate ® Stakes, control termites.

The key to successful subterranean termite population reduction begins with a successful "pre-baiting strategy". It is very important to use a non-toxic non-repellent food source that can be easily inspected and maintained with a minimum of human intervention. This pre-baiting strategy is needed to establish a feeding cycle with the worker termites. Worker termites deliver necessary food sources to the colony which is a key ingredient to their survival. Without worker termites, the termite colony cannot feed itself and survive.

The HomeChoice ® Termite Detector make the transition between feeding the termites a non-toxic food source (wood detectors) and an toxic food source (Terminate ®) an easy and natural one. Unlike other professional termite bait systems that "force feed" the termites a toxic food source which sometimes kills them and/or results in a lost "hit" of the worker termites, the HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations are only used to detect worker termites and establish a feeding cycle with them.

When a feeding cycle is sufficiently established with worker termites, one or more Terminate ® stakes are then placed next to the HomeChoice ® Detector to enable the worker termites to transition to upon consumption of the wood detector. **IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED TO PLACE TERMINATE STAKES DIRECTLY INSIDE THE HOMECHOICE DETECTOR STATIONS.**

Terminate ® stakes are then repeatedly inspected and replaced until all signs of termite feeding activity stop. The average subterranean termite colony in the USA contains approximately 250,000 termites. Each individual Terminate ® Stake contains enough toxic ingredient (sulflurimid) to kill 10,000 - 30,000 termites. The number of Terminate ® Stakes needed to control an entire colony may vary. For this reason it is best to maintain and keep records of the number of Terminate stakes used during your baiting period so that you can get a better idea of control. A structural graph and log is located in this guide for you to make copies of and use on your inspections.

Again, thank you for your purchase of the HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations. Please read this guide thoroughly, and if after reading you have any questions - please visit the HomeChoice Termite Bait website at www.pestsupply.com/homechoice.htm or call us toll free at 1-877-500-0011

Quick Overview Of Termite Baiting Using The HomeChoice® Termite Detectors and Terminate Termite Stakes®

By now you are probably anxious to start your own termite baiting program. This quick overview gives you a fast start to installing your system. A more detailed explanation of each process is covered in the following chapters.

Install HomeChoice Termite Detectors®

Using the HomeChoice Installation tool, make a hole in the ground every 10 feet around the perimeter of the home or building. These holes should be evenly spaced every 10 feet and about 3 to 4 feet from the side of the building. Insert a HomeChoice® Termite Detector into the hole and make sure that it is flush with the ground. In areas of concrete either A) have a concrete coring company core a 2" hole through it or B) place the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors outside of the areas.

Inspecting HomeChoice Termite Detectors®

Once a month (every 30 days) carefully remove the lid containing the wood detector and inspect for termite activity. Termites are small creamy colored, almost transparent insects. When you can count 50-75 termites OR 50% of the wood detector is eaten, and termites are actively infesting the station, it is time to use Terminate®.

Using Terminate® Termite Stakes

The use of Terminate® Termite Stakes should always be according to label directions. When Termites are actively feeding install one or more Terminate® Termite Stakes directly into the ground and as close to the feeding site as possible. It does not help to insert Terminate® Stakes into the HomeChoice® Detectors stations until the wood detector has been completely consumed. Continue inspecting the Terminate® Stakes every 30 days or according to label directions and replace them as needed. It is very important that the termites have a continual food supply. If the Terminate® Stake is consumed before the replacement stake is in place, the termites may leave the feeding site and go elsewhere. KEEP THE TERMITES HAPPY! Give them plenty of Terminate®.

When the termites have consumed a minimum of 20 – 40 Terminate® stakes (average 250,000 termite colony size), feeding has continuously occurred for a period of 6 months, feeding stops, and no signs of termites are anywhere on the property, the "standard of proof" has presumed to have occurred. You now have the option of replacing the wood detectors and continuing a preventive checking schedule or discontinuing your baiting program.

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1 Installation of HomeChoice® Termite Detectors



Before a proper placement of The HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors can be made, you first have to determine how many stations you are going to need.

There are 2 important places to install HomeChoice ® Detector Stations:

- 1. Immediately around the perimeter of your home or building to create an “interception zone”.**
- 2. In termite “critical areas” such as areas near fences, sheds, tree stumps or other areas of potential termite activity.**

There is no definite rule as to where termite detector stations should be placed. They can be placed anywhere termite activity is suspected, areas near moisture, areas that are conducive or attractive to termites, etc. **The rule of thumb is one station should be placed every 10 linear feet around the perimeter of your home or building and about 3 - 4 feet from the wall.**

Termites can be active in just about any area of your property - placing additional HomeChoice ® Detector Stations in these areas will aid to "pick up" or help detect termites before they get to the interception zone. Of course placing detector stations in an interception zone will not guarantee you that termites will not bypass them and head directly for the house, but it does give them an alternative food source that - in the absence of any other wood (food) sources, should be eventually "hit" or found by the foraging termite scouts.

A measurement of the outside walls of the building either by tape measure or by the stepping method (stepping one foot after another) should give you a pretty good idea of where to place the detectors.

Preferred areas to place your HomeChoice ® Detector Stations are in flowerbeds, under shrubs, along sidewalks, etc. Try to hide the stations if at all possible where they are not easily seen and where they will be less likely to be encountered by children, pets, and even nosy neighbors!

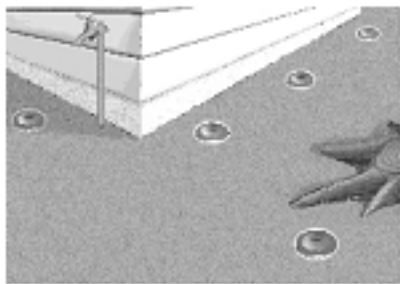
To install the HomeChoice ® Detectors - Simply make a hole with the *HomeChoice ® Installation Tool* - remove all dirt or fill, and insert the station into the hole flush with the soil surface. Be sure to remove any excess dirt and place it elsewhere - do not cover up the station. Leave the top exposed and make sure that the lid is secure.

After Installation, Make A Drawing Of Your Home.

Be sure to make a drawing that resembles your home and note areas where you place the detectors. It is best to keep all notes, graphs and monthly inspection sheets in a log book. Your logs will help you eventually determine how your baiting efforts are working. After all HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are in place, install the *HomeChoice NumberRings®* and number them using a permanent ink marker. The *HomeChoice NumberRings®* fit easily under the lid and remain in place with the lid secure for easy locating and numbering. It is best to start with the number one station at the right hand side of the front door and work counter clockwise around the house. This way you will remember the station numbers and after the 2nd or 3rd inspection can remove the *HomeChoice NumberRings®*. After all - termites can't read numbers!

2 Establishing A Feeding Connection

After your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are in place the real fun begins. That's because termite baiting is similar to fishing. If you like to fish, then you will love to bait for termites. But just like fishing, when you get the first hit, don't react and start pulling on the line- you might scare the fish off. In termite baiting, that's called losing the termite "hit". You have to wait until the time is just right, then your termite baiting strategy begins.



Termite baiting begins with the installation of your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors. Once the detectors are in the ground, the natural environment that was once in place is disturbed. The ground is disturbed and any termite tunnels that may have been in the ground at the time of installation are disturbed. It normally takes a few months for everything to become natural again. After the natural environment is re-established, the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are primed and ready to begin detecting termites.

Termites are socialized insects having a complete caste system made up of scouts, workers, soldiers, reproductives, kings and queens (we will discuss this more in detail later). The scout termites or foragers are the termites that will initially locate and mark new food sources for the colony. They will normally mark all suitable food sources within a given area near their colony. Small termite colonies (less than 250,000 individuals) will dominate smaller areas. Sometimes smaller colonies will only infest an area less than the size of an average size lawn. But larger termite colonies (250,000 and up) can dominate

areas up to the size of an acre. The size of the termite colony will never be known. That's the reason HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are placed every 10 feet around the perimeter of the house or building. Unlike ants or bees, whose nest or colonies can usually easily be seen, subterranean termites colonies are buried deep in the ground, usually under tree stumps or other decaying organic matter. Forget pulling up tree stumps, the roots of the tree can go up to 100 feet down in the ground. You will never be able to dig that far down. That's why termite colonies are so difficult to locate.



Scout subterranean termites usually forage for food sources (wood) 1"-2" inches below the soil surface. That is the reason the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors only 7" in total length. Plus longer detectors are harder to install. The scout termites will enter the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors from the side, eat through the foam moisture seal and directly into the wood detector. The scout termites will then release what is commonly referred to as a "trail pheromone" or "scent trail" which is their way of marking the feeding site. The trail pheromone acts to draw or "recruit" worker termites from other feeding sites and the colony to the new feeding site. Sometimes the worker termites are fast to come to the new feeding site, sometimes they are slower taking up to a year or more to show up. This process is true with all termite bait systems—sometimes it becomes a waiting game. Once the worker termites have established a continual feeding connection between the feeding site and the colony, a feeding cycle is established.



The feeding cycle of the worker termite between the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors and the termite colony is the first most important aspect of your termite baiting strategy. It has been said that effective termite baiting depends solely upon the participation of the worker termites. If the worker termites are not actively feeding (normally when you can see 50-75 termites or about 1/2 of the wood detector is eaten), placement of a toxic bait material in an attempt to speed up the bait process (sort of like pulling on the fishing line upon the first nibble) could cause you to lose your termite hit.

After the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are installed, your graph is drawn, the NumbeRings® are installed, schedule inspections of your detectors every 30

days. When inspecting the HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors, carefully open the lid using the HomeChoice key turning counter clockwise and remove the wood detector. When and only when you can see 50-75 termites or 50% of the wood detector is eaten, it is time to pull real hard on that fishing line and install a bait toxicant. We currently include Terminate ® Termite Stakes containing Sulfluramid in our HomeChoice combo kits because of it's proven effectiveness and low cost. When you are convinced that termites have established a solid feeding connection with the colony, it's time to install Terminate.®

3 Applying Terminate ®

Termite baiting gets it's name primarily due to the fact that termites are lured into a feeding station that contains no poison and then once a feeding cycle is established, fed a poison to kill them. The use of a non-toxic detector station used to detect termites and the subsequent use of a toxic material or poisonous bait is called "baiting and switching" or bait and switch for short. ALL termite baiting systems utilize this approach to deliver a toxic substance to the colony.

After a feeding cycle is solidly established and termites are actively feeding on the wood in the HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors, Terminate ® stakes should be applied. Read the label and instructions and follow the label instructions closely before applying Terminate ® Stakes.

Terminate ® Stakes must be replaced every 30 days or even sooner in some cases to remain toxic to the termites. If Terminate ® Stakes are used without the use of a detector station or where subterranean termites are not actively feeding, the scout termites during normal foraging will find them, feed upon them and be killed. This will substantially limit the effect on the termite colony because no feeding cycle has yet been established with the worker termites. It is also important to mention that termite stakes containing sulfluramid left in the ground longer than 30 days under normal conditions will detoxify and become non-toxic to termites. Wet soils, organic content, PH levels etc, all play a role in the life span of TransFlur ® (Sulfluramid). For most practical purposes and in order to get the most out of the Terminate ® Stakes, keep them fresh and replace them often. They are the most important part of your termite baiting program.

When termites infest your HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors, using the Terminate ® installation tool, make 2 holes in the soil directly next to and on each side of the HomeChoice ® Termite Detector. Make this hole several inches deep and angle it towards the bottom of the HomeChoice ® Termite Detector. Insert a Terminate ® Stake into each hole leaving the top portion of the cap exposed for easy viewing.



The subterranean termites feeding inside the HomeChoice® Termite Detector will readily transition over to the Terminate® Stakes and resume feeding. This is the single most important part of your termite baiting efforts.

DO NOT REMOVE THE WOOD DETECTOR OR INSERT TERMINATE®. The HomeChoice® wood detector contains important trail pheromones that attract worker subterranean termites. Removing the wood detector will remove the trail pheromones and could result in a "lost hit". Placing the Terminate® Stakes directly next to the HomeChoice® Detector stations simply adds a toxic material to the feeding site which will kill the subterranean termites that feed on them



Every 30 days, inspect the Terminate® Stakes by gently removing them from the soil and looking through the clear plastic tube. If termites have consumed more than 75% of the material inside both Terminate® Stakes, consider using 3-4 Terminate® Stakes instead of 2. Simply add extra Terminate® stakes next to the HomeChoice® Termite Detector. Do not let the Terminate® Stakes become completely empty of the toxic matrix inside. Doing so could cause the termites to leave and search for more food elsewhere.

Replace the Terminate® Stakes as often as necessary to keep the termites feeding. An average colony of 250,000 will consume 20-40 Terminate® Stakes. Large colonies, especially those containing Formosan Subterranean Termites will consume more.

Unused Terminate® Stakes kept in a sealed plastic bag at room temperature

should remain effective for several years. If you are unsure of the condition of the Terminate® Stakes, do not use them. Always use fresh, uncontaminated stakes. Always wash your hands before and after handling them. Terminate® Stakes contaminated by nicotine from smoking, deodorants, cologne, etc. will repel subterranean termites.

4 Determining Termite Colony Control

Termite colony elimination is a term that has been used by the pest control industry to describe what presumes to happen to termite colonies after a sufficient dose of a toxic material has been eaten by the worker termites. Furthermore, continual termite activity for a minimum of 6 consecutive months, followed by another 6 month period of no activity leads to what is called the "standard of proof". The standard of proof is an educated guess that if the worker termites have consumed enough toxicant and there are no signs of active termites anywhere on the property, that colony elimination or control must have occurred. Before we mislead you into believing that Terminate® Stakes or any termite baiting system can result in total subterranean termite colony elimination, a better understanding of the term "colony elimination" must be explored.

First, termite colony elimination is not an accepted term by University Scientists nor is it an accepted explanation of what happens to subterranean termite colonies just because they have temporarily disappeared. The term "Termite Colony Elimination" was invented by Dow Agrosciences to promote their Termite Baiting System Sentricon®. Since the beginnings of termite baiting which date back to the early 1970's in the Netherlands, scientists have been sceptical about ever totally eliminating termite colonies. The problem is that even if the termite colony has been eliminated, there is no way to physically prove it. Subterranean termite colonies are located far down into the ground, usually in the roots of buried tree stumps. To locate it and prove that it has been eliminated is virtually impossible. Even by using the "*standard of proof*" that many pest control companies use to claim termite colony elimination, most industry experts agree that at best, termite baiting results in *substantial population reduction*. **Population reduction means that enough of the worker termites have been killed during the toxic feeding phase of the baiting program that they are no longer a threat to the home or property. Population reduction does not mean that the colony has been eliminated or that every single termite is dead.** For the purposes of this guide, and for our discussion in general, we will assume that termite colony elimination is a sales phrase coined by Dow Agrosciences® and that population reduction is the best that can be expected from using Terminate® Stakes or any termite baiting system.

A typical termite baiting program can take 6 months to 6 years or even longer to complete. There is no average amount of time or predetermined period of time that it takes. Furthermore, to achieve substantial population reduction depends on how much Terminate® the worker termites consume. Remember, termite baiting success rests solely on the participation of the subterranean termites and how much toxic bait they consume-not how much time has elapsed or how many times you have checked the bait stations.

Scientific research by Spectrum Corporation and by FMC® (makers of Firstline® Termite Bait) do not agree on how much sulfluramid it takes to kill a termite colony. Regardless of how much it actually takes, Terminate® Stakes have to be inspected and replaced continually until the standard of proof is reached. Only by continual monthly inspections, sometimes involving moving stations to a new area, adding extra HomeChoice® Termite Detectors, etc., can any kind of success involving population reduction be achieved.

Your persistence in achieving results and not compromising on the amount of Terminate® Stakes are the single biggest determining factor in the overall success of your termite baiting efforts. As long as you adhere to a dedicated schedule of inspecting and maintaining your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors, use as many Terminate® Stakes as the termites will eat, your chances of obtaining the standard of proof are as good as with any termite bait system currently on the market. We wish you success.

5 Using Terminate® Termite Stakes

The use of Terminate® Termite Stakes should always be according to label directions. When Termites are actively feeding install one or more Terminate® Termite Stakes directly into the ground and as close to the feeding site as possible. It does not help to insert Terminate® Stakes into the HomeChoice® Detectors stations until the wood detector has been completely consumed. Continue inspecting the Terminate® Stakes every 30 days or according to label directions and replace them as needed. It is very important that the termites have a continual food supply. If the Terminate® Stake is consumed before the replacement stake is in place, the termites may leave the feeding site and go elsewhere. KEEP THE TERMITES HAPPY! Give them plenty of Terminate®.

When the termites have consumed a minimum of 20 – 40 Terminate® stakes (average 250,000 termite colony size), feeding has continuously occurred for a period of 6 months, feeding stops, and no signs of termites are anywhere on the property, the "standard of proof" has presumed to have occurred. You now have the option of replacing the wood detectors and continuing a preventive checking schedule or discontinuing your baiting program.

6 Baiting Tips With HomeChoice® Termite Detectors

Subterranean Termite Baiting is a relatively new concept. New techniques and methods are constantly being implemented that will hopefully increase the effectiveness of termite baiting. Here are some of the latest tips that if implemented properly, should help you achieve the results you are looking for.

1. HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are used to detect foraging termites. After a termite feeding cycle has been established, they can be used in combination with any available over the counter Termite Bait toxicant including Terminate, Firstline, TermitRid, etc.. The use of any other product is not recommended. For best results, we recommend to only use EPA registered termite bait materials.
2. HomeChoice® Termite Detectors should be placed every 10 feet around the perimeter of the structure, and about 3 -4 feet from the foundation wall. They can also be placed around detached garages, along fences, or even in the middle of the yard if necessary or anywhere termites are suspected. It is very important to place these stations in what are called, "hot spots". Hot spots would be those areas that are very conducive to termites or where moisture is prevalent such as near water spigots, or sprinklers, in mulch, near kitchens, bathrooms, and attached porches and decks.
3. HomeChoice® Termite Detectors should not be placed into areas where water frequently stands. In addition if HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are found to contain water, a deeper hole should be made to allow for station drainage.
4. Do not spray any pesticide into your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors. If ants invade your detectors, then use Award® or Maxforce® brand ant bait and NOT insecticide sprays or granules. The use of insecticide sprays or granules will repel termites. Also, it is best not to spray within 3 feet of your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors with liquid insecticides, herbicides or fertilizers or allow pets to urinate on them.
5. Pre-baiting is very important in a termite baiting program. The prebaiting period could take several months or longer depending on your geographical area. Initially, only the scout termites will locate and feed on your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors. It is very important to make sure that a solid feeding connection with worker termites is established before using any toxicant baits.

We recommend to only use a toxicant bait when approximately 50% of the wood detector is eaten or when you can actually count 50 - 75 worker termites.

Toxicant baits that are used before a solid feeding connection is established will result in the scout termites being killed and not the workers or soldiers. This will

result in dead termites, but the total effect on the colony will be limited. It is best to place toxicant bait cartridges directly next to the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors and NOT INSIDE. Place the toxicant bait cartridges at an angle toward the bottom and within about 1 inch of the HomeChoice® Termite Detectors. Leave the lid of the toxicant bait station above ground so that you can view the inside of the station without removing it from the ground. This will make it easy for the Termites to transition to the toxicant bait while minimizing any disturbance of the termite feeding cycle. When inspecting the bait cartridge, either view it from the top, or gently remove it from the ground. If you are not replacing the toxicant bait station, place it in the same hole in the same direction that it was removed from the ground. This will ensure that any termite tunnels that may have been broken are lined up. This will also aid in minimizing the disturbance to any feeding termites.

6. Be sure to wash your hands prior to inspecting your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors. Pesticides, gasoline, motor oils, colognes, etc, that are on your hands will repel the termites making your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors unusable. Do not use any soap or detergent to wash your Termite Detector Stations, this could also repel any foraging termites. If your Termite Detector Stations become contaminated with any foreign substance, replace the station with a new one.

7. If any parts of your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors are missing or damaged, replace them immediately. Missing caps, broken shields, etc. can reduce your termite baiting results. Replace any broken or missing parts or missing stations as soon as practical.

Before applying any toxicants please refer to it's chemical label directions for the proper use and well as precautionary measures that should be taken before using it.

7 Preventive Follow-up

After you have completed the baiting process, the standard of proof has been reached and termites are nowhere to be found either in your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors, or the Terminate® Stakes, you have two choices. You can 1) elect to discontinue your baiting efforts, pull up your HomeChoice® Termite Detectors and fill in the holes with dirt or 2) replace your HomeChoice® wood detectors with new ones and continue monitoring for early detection of potential new termite colonies.

A subterranean termite colony is a large underground network with multiple chambers, pathways, tunnels, etc. It can be as small as a baseball or as large as a car. It can be a single colony or a network of conjoining "satellite" colonies.

The size depends on the age of the colony. Some experts claim that termite colonies can be millions of years old. The bottom line is, with subterranean termites, you really never know what you are dealing with-because you can't see it. It's underground and invisible.

If the termite colony is eradicated, this large network or insect hotel remains underground-empty. Scientists think that it is very probable that new termite colonies-either new ones recently formed by a single pair of swarmers or a termite colony that is expanding and branching out could potentially infest old termite colonies.

The other possibility exists that your termite colony has only been reduced in size to an invisible level through your baiting program.

For both reasons, it is recommended that you continue your monitoring program. Once a monitoring or detection only program is in place, and as long as termites are not active, a quarterly inspection of your HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors is all that is needed.

If during your monitoring program subterranean termites are re-detected, those stations that have activity should be reinspected and placed back onto a 30 day inspection cycle.

Again, the continued monitoring on a quarterly basis is up to you, but considering the time and investment that you have already made, it's a good idea.

Replacement wood detectors are available from your local distributor or available directly from PestSupply. Visit us on the internet at www.PestSupply.com for a complete online catalog of all the available HomeChoice ® Termite Detector parts and accessories.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact us toll free at 1-877-500-0011. Again we thank you for choosing HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors as part of your war on term war on termites.

Glossary Of Terms

Auxiliary Station A termite detector station that is placed directly next to a preexisting station. Normally, auxiliary stations are added to areas to where an abundance of termite feeding activity has occurred.

Bait and Switch The act of using a non toxic food source to establish a feeding cycle with worker subterranean termites and then using a toxic food source at a later time that the termites transition to and readily feed upon without any sense of it's toxic nature.

Chemical Label The use instructions attached to every pesticide manufactured in the USA. The chemical label is the law and should be followed as closely as possible.

Colony Management Sometimes referred to as colony elimination or population reduction. A generic term used to describe the disappearance of termites from an area that has been exposed to a termite baiting system. Presumed colony management occurs after the "standard of proof" has been reached.

Feeding Cycle A term used to describe the connection made by worker subterranean termites and their continual traveling back and forth from a feeding site to the termite colony to deliver food sources to the soldiers, immature and reproductive termites.

HomeChoice® Termite Detector Station A specially designed plastic device containing a wood detector and moisture seal that helps to detect foraging scout and/or worker subterranean termites. The HomeChoice® Termite Detector Station contains no toxicant or poison.

Hit When subterranean termites are actively feeding in a HomeChoice® Termite Detector Station or in a Terminate® Termite Bait Stake.

Lost Hit When subterranean termites leave a feeding site before establishing a feeding connection with the termite colony or before feeding on Terminate® Bait. Lost hits can occur at any time during the baiting process due to human, chemical, animal or other intervention and for reasons unknown.

HomeChoice NumberRing® A PVC ring that attaches to the top of the HomeChoice Termite Detector Station®. NumberRings® are used to identify and number HomeChoice® Detector Stations and to warn people, and pets of their presence. NumberRings® are not designed to last more than a few months and should be removed after 60-90 days.

Population Reduction The reduction in the size of the termite colony that normally refers to the reduction in the numbers of worker termites. The worker termite population must be reduced in order for any overall effect on the colony to take place.

Standard of Proof The proof used by professional pest companies to determine whether or not termite colony management or control has taken place. The usual standard of proof is that when worker subterranean termites have been feeding on a toxic material for a period of 6 months, and have consumed enough toxic material to effect the termite colony, and no further termite evidence is found in the termite detector stations, toxicant stations, inside the home or anywhere on the property, colony control or management is presumed to have occurred. The standard of proof is not a legal term and should only be used in a generic sense since locating a subterranean termite colony is almost impossible.

Spot Treatment The act of applying a chemical termiticide to an area of a building or structure where subterranean termites are actively feeding or infesting. Spot treating for subterranean termites generally involves using a small amount of chemical to a small area where termites are entering the structure.

Subterranean Termites The family of termites in the United States commonly known as ground termites because of their "in ground" colony structure. Subterranean termite colonies normally contain 250,000 + individual termites and can contain 1 colony or a several colonies connected by a satellite structure. Individual castes in the subterranean termite colony consist of scouts or foragers, workers, soldiers, reproductives, kings and queens. Subterranean termites have been found in every state except Alaska.

Starvation The queens, kings and reproductives and immature termites do not feed themselves but instead are fed by the worker termites. The colony is said to "starve" when sufficient worker termite population reduction has occurred and food is no longer delivered to the colony.

Stomach Poison The mode of action the toxic material Sulfluramid has on subterranean termites. Stomach poisons must be eaten to have an effect on worker termites.

Sulfluramid ® A toxic substance contained in the Terminate ® Termite Bait Stake that acts to kill subterranean termites when eaten. HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations do not contain any sulfluramid.

Terminate® Termite Bait Stake A small plastic device inserted into the ground that contains the toxic ingredient Transflur ® or "sulfluramid" that aids in killing worker termites when fed upon.

Understanding Termites



Scouts or foragers find new sources of food such as wood and cellulose for the colony. When new food sources are located, the scouts release a "trail pheromone" or scent that acts to "recruit" or attract the worker termites from other feeding areas and from the colony. Scouts feed themselves.



Soldiers protect the workers and the colony against outside enemies such as ants. They are noticeably different from the workers by the presence of a long armored head and large jaws. Soldiers do not feed themselves.



Workers are the only termites that damage wood. Workers are soft bodied, and require areas with high moisture content to survive. They will travel from your home back to the colony every 48-72 hours to deliver wood and to get "re-charged" with moisture. Workers feed themselves and also deliver food sources to the colony. All workers are female.



The **queen** is the active reproductive and lays dozens, sometimes hundreds of eggs a day and can live up to 30 years. Queens do not feed themselves, but given the absence of workers can feed themselves.



Kings are used for mating purposes only. Once the Queens are fertilized, they are fertile for life. The Kings only live a short time. Kings do not feed themselves.



Swarmers are often confused with flying ants. They leave the colony in the spring and fall to form new colonies. Active termite swarmers usually indicate a colony close by. Swarmers can feed themselves. Only about 1% of all termites swarmers actually survive the swarm and go on to establish new termite colonies.

HomeChoice ® Termite Detector Stations

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Provided Is Not Intended As An Expert, or Professional Service. If
Professional Advice or Other Expert Assistance Is Required The
Services Of A Competent Professional Should Be Sought.

HomeChoice ® Termite Detectors and Terminate ® Stakes are not
intended as a sole means of controlling active subterranean
termites in structures. If termites are active in your structure,
then a chemical treatment applied into the ground or wood
designed to kill subterranean termites
on contact should be used.

Termite baiting is for the control of ground or subterranean termites
only and is not effective against drywood termites.

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