

# FORMOSAN TERMITE INFO SHEET

## **FAST FACTS**

- Termites have been around since the time of the dinosaurs!
- Termite colonies eat non-stop — 24 hours a day, seven days a week!
- Termites cause up to \$2 *billion* of damages per year!
- The total weight of all of the termites in the world is more than the weight of all the humans in the world.

## **General Information**

Formosan termite colonies can be up to 300 feet long and there can be tens of thousands of termites in a single colony. Formosan termite colonies are divided into three groups: workers, soldiers and **reproductives**. They are the largest and most destructive kind of termite.

<b>Size</b>	1/2"	<b>Common Name</b>	Formosan Termites
<b>Shape</b>	Long, narrow, oval	<b>Kingdom</b>	Animalia
<b>Color</b>	Yellowish brown	<b>Phylum</b>	Arthropoda
<b>Legs</b>	6	<b>Class</b>	Insecta
<b>Wings</b>	Yes	<b>Order</b>	Isoptera
<b>Antenna</b>	Yes	<b>Family</b>	Rhinotermitidae
		<b>Genus Species</b>	Various

## **Diet**

Formosan Termites eat wood and fabric made from plants. When they eat dead trees, these termites help the environment and make space for new plant life.

## **Habitat**

Formosans live in huge underground colonies, and build mud nests inside the walls of a building. They can also live in boats and buildings.

## **Impact**

Formosan termites eat a lot of wood and can damage your house.

## **Prevention**

\* To avoid Formosan termites, make sure water drains away from your house and keep damp wood away from your home.

To learn more about this and other termites, visit <http://www.pestworldforkids.org/termites.html>