



SUBTERRANEAN 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

Subterranean Termite colonies can have up to *2 million* members! Their colonies are divided into three groups: workers, soldiers and **reproductives**.

Size	1/8" to 1"	Common Name	Subterranean Termites
Shape	Long, narrow, oval	Kingdom	Animalia
Color	Creamy brown	Phylum	Arthropoda
Legs	6	Class	Insecta
Wings	Yes	Order	Isoptera
Antenna	Yes	Family	Rhinotermitidae
		Genus Species	Various

Diet

Termites eat wood, wallpaper, plastics and fabric made from plants.

Habitat

Subterranean termites need contact with the soil to survive. They live in underground colonies or in wet areas aboveground. They build tunnels to reach food and every spring, groups of **reproductive** termites fly off to start new colonies.

Impact

Subterranean termites are the most destructive kind of termite. They can eat a *lot* of wood and they can cause a lot of expensive damage to a house! They can destroy building foundations, wooden support beams, plastic plumbing pipes, sub-flooring, insulation... even swimming pool liners and filtration systems! Termites can also injure or destroy living trees and shrubs.

Prevention

- * Don't let water pool around your home's foundation. Termites like that!
- * Never leave wood scraps in the yard for them to snack on.

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