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## Termite Nest Treatment Guarantee

We guarantee 100% efficacy for all termite nest treatments. To be specific, any termite nest that is treated by us, will be re-treated free of charge should we not manage to kill it with the first attempt. Our treatments are highly effective and this is an unlikely scenario.

There is perhaps some more information required for you to understand the nature of termite control. In our experience the customer is all too often uninformed and this leads to problems down the line. Our business "The Bugmen" strives to inform and deliver an effective and efficient service. For this reason, I have provided some more information to help you better understand termites and also what expectations to have regarding the treatment.

Termites are social insects which require a nest in order to survive. In the nest there are various roles which different termites play, these are known as 'castes'. For example there are worker termites which gather cellulose matter and return it to the nest. There are also soldier termites which defend the workers and the nest from attack. There is a king and a queen termite as well, their role is to reproduce and keep the colony stocked with the various castes needed to maintain the nest. A mature termite nest will produce reproductive alates more commonly known as 'flying ants', during the rains. These alates take flight and upon settling elsewhere, pair up, shed their wings and burrow underground to start a new termite nest. Less than 1% of all alate pairs will ever make it to a mature nest; nonetheless, 1% of a million is a significant amount! These emergent termite nests can take anywhere from 1 year to several years before they become visible on the surface. Thus each year you can expect a new cohort of emergent nests to surface from previous years' alate pairs. Termite control is just that, control by maintaining an annual eradication of nests that emerge. If these nests are left unchecked, they too will begin to release alates and the problem grows exponentially. It is impossible to be totally 100% termite free, especially in Africa which is officially the world capital of termites, home to over 100 different species.

It is possible to go one step further in an attempt to obtain better termite control than just the simple reactive treatments described above. A cover spray of the yard will put pressure on these invisible emerging nests to the point of elimination. This is an expensive exercise however, and we typically only recommend it if the recruitment of new nests is high i.e. copious new nests emerging each year.

Having a better understanding of their life cycle should help you understand the limitations of what can be done and what you can expect in the future. Unfortunately it is not a simple "one treatment fixes them forever" exercise. All too often this is the opinion of the uninformed, it is simply not possible.

The cost of maintaining termites should decrease once the existing large nests have been eliminated; provided that each year (best checked January/February) emergent nests are then treated whilst small, and thus require less termiticide to get the job done.

We hope that you have found this information helpful as well as interesting. Should you have any questions please don't hesitate to email or call me directly.

Kind regards

Mark Hadingham (BSc, MAppSc)(PG, QBE)(Director)