

Phantom Termiticide-Insecticide Provides Outstanding Control

In Texas and Arkansas Tests

When Danny Berry began testing new Phantom® termiticide-insecticide a few years ago under an Experimental Use Permit (EUP), he chose a situation that would put the product through its paces. Berry, termite department manager for Pest Fog, Inc., selected Coastal Bend Youth City, a home for “wayward boys” in Corpus Christi, Texas. EUPs involve field trials used to develop the data needed for product registration by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The facility was already a customer of Pest Fog, but not for termite treatments. “On different visits for other purposes, we noticed the building had a definite termite infestation, but we knew they couldn’t afford to treat the problem,” says Berry. “It was an obvious, heavy infestation of subterranean termites. We could see the tunneling coming up the perimeter of the building, which is a sure sign of trouble ahead.” Recognizing the serious need for treatment and the lack of available funds, Berry felt Coastal Bend Youth City would be a worthy cause for testing Phantom.

Standard Application Produces Excellent Results

Pest Fog’s termite technicians began with a standard trench-and-treat application, using 0.125 percent active ingredient and applying four gallons per 10 linear feet. “With a nonrepellent product like Phantom, you expose more of the colony to the product,” adds Berry.

Phantom termiticide-insecticide contains the active ingredient chlorfenapyr, which is nonrepellent and undetectable by termites. Because they don’t know it’s there, termites are not inhibited in their normal activities, so they forage freely and acquire effective doses. They continue to interact with other members of the colony and transfer doses of Phantom to other termites, thus accelerating the population reduction. Unlike other termiticides, Phantom termiticide-insecticide does not affect the insect’s nervous system. It has a unique mode of action that targets the biological process that insects use to generate energy, so termites become sluggish and die within a week. It is also labeled for indoor use in cracks and

crevices and for controlling general pests such as ants and cockroaches.

“Results from the test have been excellent,” Berry added. “We monitor the situation every few months and termites have not returned in the two years since we applied the product.”

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“Results from the test have been excellent.”

—Danny Berry, Pest Fog, Inc.



Jerry Hyde (right) inspects clear evidence of heavy termite infestation.

Arkansas Has Similar Results

Farther north, in Paragould, Arkansas, Jerry Hyde had “outstanding” results in all of his EUP tests with Phantom® termiticide-insecticide. The owner of Hyde’s Termite and Pest Control, Hyde made his first treatment with the product in 1998, on a brick house with traditional crawl-space construction. “Termites were coming out of the sheetrock under the picture window in the living room,” he says. “There were infestations in two or three places in the house.”

Hyde made a trench-and-treat application with Phantom termiticide-insecticide, drilling the bricks, the block foundation and around the piers. The house had a dirt-filled porch, which presented a few problems.

“We drilled the porch and rodded it down, but termites were coming up from under the bottom of the slab when we went back in 30 days,” Hyde notes. “So we drilled across the porch and treated the surface of the fill under the slab. After that, termites were

under control.”

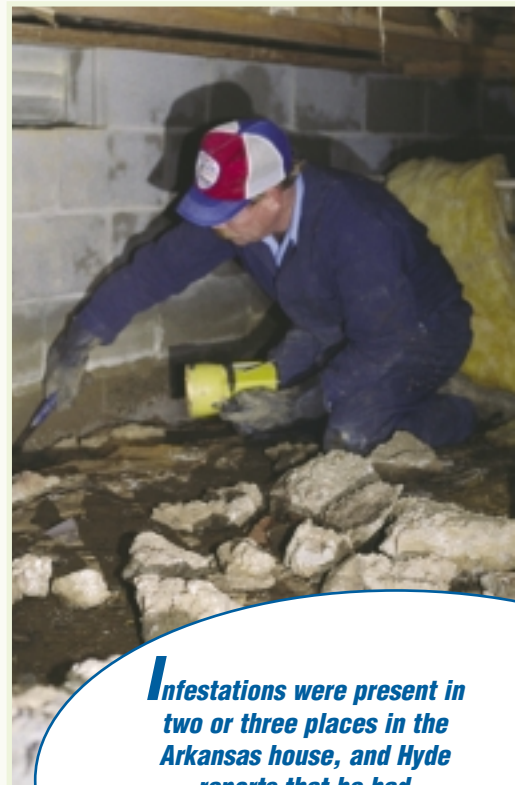
The second house Hyde treated had standing water beneath it. “This house had an even worse infestation than the first one,” Hyde notes. “Termites had come up the base of the slab and gotten into the siding. In addition, there was physical damage to the load-carrying beam running through the center of the house.”

After he drained the standing water, Hyde trenched and treated with Phantom termiticide-insecticide. The infestation was under control within 30 days. Though the owners replaced some of the siding, no structural repair was necessary.

The nonrepellent nature of Phantom appeals to Hyde. “We get good, quick control because the termites don’t avoid the material,” he says. “It also has excellent soil stability. I’ve used Phantom in mixed sandy soil, clay and gumbo. It holds up well in all of the above. It works in varying alkaline levels, as well.”

Phantom termiticide-insecticide recently received full federal registration from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

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Infestations were present in two or three places in the Arkansas house, and Hyde reports that he had “outstanding” results in all of his EUP tests with Phantom termiticide-insecticide.