PMU Focus - Formosan Subterranean Termites
By: Faith Oi

If you are in the Florida Panhandle, are you ready for the “Mother’s Day FST Swarms?”

Things you may not have known about the Formosan subterranean termite:

- Colonies contain ~1,000 to 9,000 individuals within the first 3 years
- Individual termites increase in size as the colony ages
- As the colony ages, the number of antennal segments also increase from 11 for first instar to 18 at the final instar

Why are these pieces of information important? Researchers used it to track the reinvasion of Formosan subterranean termites in an area after baiting out all known colonies (From Mullin et al. 2011).

Want to know if you are in Formosan or Asian subterranean termite territory? Check out the new interactive termite map developed by our outstanding termite team at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center: http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/termites-in-florida/ Click on the “Termite Distribution” tab.

Help us, so we can help you! Want to contribute to the map? http://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/termites-in-florida/send-samples/
We (Still) Need Your Ticks!

If you have more than 5 raisin-size, blood-fed female brown dog ticks, (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*) we want them!

If you have ticks for us, please contact Dr. Phillip E. Kaufman (*pkaufman@ufl.edu*, (352) 273-3975) or Lois Wood (*lwood@ufl.edu*, 352-273-3981) for more information.

Fig. 2. Engorged female brown dog tick, about the size of a
Landscape IPM Course and LMA

Get ready to learn this summer: Enroll in Landscape IPM: Ornamentals and Turf, and take your first steps toward getting a UF Pest Management Certificate or becoming LMA Certified! Classes begin June 27th!

A three credit/six week course will be offered starting June 2016 at the University of Florida (UF). The course is called "Landscape IPM: Ornamentals and Turf" and is course number IPM 4254. This course will be offered for UF credit and will be available for students that are enrolled at UF or for people outside UF that are interested in the material. UF will offer the course next summer (2016) and it will be available 100% online. You must have computer and internet access to take this class. This course is for UF juniors and seniors and landscape and pest management supervisors and owners.

This course will be used as a measure for LMA Certification. The LMA will offer students who pass this class (with an A or a B) the opportunity to become LMA Certified without additional testing since they will be tested as part of the course. This course will also count towards a UF Certificate in Landscape Pest Management.

Learn more about the UF distance program, including costs and how to register-
http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/academics-directory/online-learning/

To register for this course please complete a Nondegree Registration Request at the following website:
http://www.isis.ufl.edu/cgi-bin/eaglec?MDASTRAN=nda-intro

Advance Registration: March 21st to May 3rd, then May 5th to June 23rd. Fee payments due July 8!

You will need to fill out some personal information on the form and the following course information:

- Select Year and Term of Registration: 2016 Summer (May)
- College: THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES – Entomology Undergrad Distance Courses
- Course Information: Prefix- IPM. Number- 4254.

If you have trouble filling out this form and registering for the course please contact Ms. Ruth Brumbaugh, Entomology and Nematology Department Student Services Coordinator. Phone: 352-273-3912 Email: brumbaug@ufl.edu . Please let Ms. Brumbaugh know you are attempting to register for the course as a Nondegree seeking student so she knows how to help you.
If you would like more information about the course please contact the course instructor Dr. Jennifer L. Gillett-Kaufman Phone: (352)273-3950 Email: gillett@ufl.edu. She cannot help you with registration and will forward all registration requests to Ms. Brumbaugh.

**Upcoming Training Opportunities:**

**We are offering a second round of Spring courses! Register now!**

...Did you know that PMU can help you by

- Partially satisfying the 482/5E-14 requirement for initial technician training hours?

Our **April 27-29 GHP Masters, May 25-27 Termite Masters, and Nov 9-11 L&O Masters** courses are open! Similar to the Structural Fumigation School (http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fumigation/), the state has graciously allowed us to hold the state certified operator examination at the end of each Masters course. We hold optional reviews in the evenings. To qualify, you must:

- Take the Foundations **and** Masters courses for GHP, WDO, or L&O

- Fill out an application package for the certified operator exam either
  - Online or
  - Paper
- Deadlines will be **March 1** for the April/May exams and **September 1** for the Oct/Nov exams

**April 2016 Offerings:**

**Foundations of Termite Management 101**

- **Date:** April 13-15, 2016; W-F
- **Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
- **Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)
- **Registration fee:** $375

Learn how termites exploit over 50 building construction elements and how to treat them in a hands-on environment in 2-days instead of 2 years.

- Practice doing a DACS vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS before a crisis occurs.
• Hear about the top 10 reasons technicians get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
• Get more in-depth information on termite biology and behavior as well as product label navigation.

Register here

Master of General Household Pest Management (3 seats remaining)

Date: April 27-29, 2016; W-F
Place: UF/IFAS Apopka MREC
Time: 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)
Registration fee: $375

This fast-paced class is only offered twice a year. Must have completed Foundations in order to advance.
• Learn about biting (including bed bugs) and stinging insects, stored product pests, and occasional invaders as well as how to recognize delusory parasitosis.
• Learn about modes of action, formulations and their impact on product selection.
• Create your own product rotation for IPM programs to take back to your companies.
• Play with the tools of the trade, vacuums, steamers, foamers and practice spray patterns.
• Prepare for an introduction to vertebrate pests that carry disease causing organisms.
• Learn about the legal liabilities of GHP work.
• Practice affidavit writing and working with DACS on licensee inspections.

Register here

Click on “Register here” for course descriptions or go to http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses for more information

Learn more from IFAS
• UF/IFAS has Extension Offices in each of Florida’s sixty-seven counties. We also have twelve Research and Education Centers (RECs) and Research and Demonstration Sites (RDSs).

• If you need help a great place to start is your local County Extension Office. With an office located in every county it has never been easier to partner with the University of Florida and your local County Government. To find an office near you please visit: http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/