



**Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
CHARLES H. BRONSON, Commissioner**

Action Plan for Eradicating the Tree Termite, *Nasutitermes costalis*

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, working in conjunction with faculty from the University of Florida – IFAS and the pest control industry, has identified a serious infestation of *Nasutitermes costalis*, an exotic tree-dwelling termite in a small area of Broward County. This pest is of significant concern because of the damage it can do to buildings, boats, equipment, trees and most anything made of untreated wood. Based on the seriousness of this pest the following action will be taken to eliminate it from infested properties in the limited area it is currently found.

Property Surveys

University of Florida-IFAS faculty have surveyed the general area of infestation to identify active nests. Additional surveys will be conducted until it is determined that most infestation sites have been located.

Property Owner Permission

All owners of properties found to be infested with *Nasutitermes costalis* will be contacted and informed of the eradication efforts being made for this pest. The owner will be asked to sign a form consenting to the treatments of the nests on their property.

The treatment will be performed at no cost to the property owner and will help avoid costly structural damage to buildings. If for some reason, a consent form cannot be obtained, FDACS has the option to issue an Immediate Final Order giving 10 (ten) days notice that a treatment will be conducted on their property to eliminate the tree termite. This is necessary to control the termite and prevent it from spreading to neighbor's property.

Control Action

Treatments will be conducted by volunteer licensed pest control operators who will use one of the following registered termiticides on the termite nest in order to eliminate it from the property:

Termidor - fipronil
Premise - imidacloprid

Both of the above termiticides have been approved and labeled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use in residential areas to control termites.

In order to document the treatment action taken on the property, a FDACS representative will accompany the licensed pest control operator during the treatment phase of the eradication program.

Follow-up Surveys and Treatments

At periodic intervals surveys of the treated property will be conducted to determine the success of the treatments as well as identify those needing additional treatments. Additional treatments will be made as needed. Property owners will be notified of any additional activities.