

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Drywood Termite

Scientific Name: *Kalotermitidae spp.*

Order and Family: Isoptera: Kalotermitidae

Size and Appearance: *Kalotermitidae sp* are present in both the Eastern and Western United States, as well as the desert states. All species exhibit a caste system and are about 12 mm in length, including wings. Unlike Subterranean termites, they are paler in color and often yellow with clear wings. The veins on the wings are usually fairly heavily sclerotized and may have a darker coloration. The soldiers of the species have mandibles with teeth present.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	< 0.001 mm	Up to 10,000 eggs per year can be laid by the Queen
Larva/Nymph	1-12 mm, depending on instar and caste	Larvae initially hatch from egg, then either molt into workers or soldiers. Several molts can occur over the course of years.
Adult	10-12 mm, depending on caste	Adults vary in size depending on caste. Queens can be 14 mm whereas most workers are 12 mm. They are light yellow in color, have sclerotized wings with darkened veins present. Soldiers are noted by having a large, rectangular head and strong mandibles with teeth.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing

Host/s or Prey: *Kaliotermitidae* are wood-feeding insects and prefer a low moisture content of 12% or less.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Colonies are located within the wood and do not live in the ground like subterranean species. They eat across the grain of the wood, resulting in chambers with tunnels connecting them. Fecal pellets, shed wings, swarmers', and surface blisters are all indicative of a possible infestation.

References:

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Termites- Drywood Termites. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (10.3.3). National Pest Management Association International.

Shelton, T.G., Foshee, W., Appel, A.G (2001). Drywood Termite Biology, Identification, and Control. Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Retrieved on July 8th, 2016 from <http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1170/ANR-1170.pdf>