

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## Love Warm Temperatures? So Do Termites.

(NAPSA)—Ninety-five percent of insect experts believe weather directly affects insect populations, according to an Entomological Society of America survey. In fact, eighty-five percent agree weather affects termites the most.

Termites thrive in warm, moist conditions found during the spring and summer—hence the swarms when they mate and reproduce. However, during the cooler months, termites stay closer to home—your home! Houses provide an ideal environment for wood-boring insects to wreak havoc.

“Termites do not fare well in dry, cold weather; so they forage inside homes,” says Byron Reid, a PhD for Premise Termite Elimination, from Bayer (see <http://www.nobugs.com>). “While warmer, wetter weather is ideal for colonies to experience a population boom, it does not mean that homeowners will be rid of them once cooler weather begins. That’s why it’s so important to have a trained pest management professional (PMP) inspect your home every year.”

A \$2.5 billion annual problem for Americans, termites can remain undetectable for up to 12 years and stay at work inside homes all year round. Typically, small subterranean termite colonies chew at a rate of one two-by-four every five months. How-



**Top Five Termite Protection Tips**

Provided by  
Premise® Termite Elimination

- 1 Store firewood away from the house
- 2 Ensure exterior finishes are at least four inches from the ground
- 3 Keep watch for bubbling paint, crumbling drywood and tiny holes in walls
- 4 Seal all cracks in the foundation or utility openings
- 5 Monitor damp areas inside the home

**Although an annual termite inspection is the most important step, here are five good ways homeowners can help protect their home from termite infestation no matter what the weather.**

ever, Formosan termites, a much more ravenous termite species, can consume as much as 30 pounds of wood in a month.

Many believe homeowner’s insurance protects them from costly repairs, a common misconception. Damage done by termites is the homeowner’s responsibility, making prevention and detection the only effective answers.

Pest management professionals nationwide recommend non-repellent liquid termiticides, like Premise from Bayer. Premise has protected more than a million U.S. homes and provides immediate structural protection. The active ingredient in Premise is the world’s

most widely used insecticide and is commonly found in consumer products for humans and pets.

“Some PMPs offer baits and repellents, but these products either work too slowly or stop working all together,” says Dr. Reid. “The advantage of Premise is that termites cannot detect it, so they unknowingly enter the treated zone and carry the active ingredient back to the colony. One by one the termites fall to the patented Premise Domino Effect®.”

For more information about protecting your home from termites or to find a local pest management professional, call 1-800-331-2867 or visit <http://www.nobugs.com>.