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### Online Training Available

<https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>  
<https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/>

### Additional Resources

University of Florida  
Extension Publications  
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Pest Management in and

## Keeping You Prepared in 2015 - The Pest Calendar

By Mike Bentley

By reader request, our newsletter will regularly feature a monthly *Pest Calendar* section that will help keep you alerted to upcoming seasonal pests and the issues that they may present. Preparing for pest issues before they become a pest control problem can make a difference in how effectively client concerns are resolved. This month's pest calendar highlights termite swarm season.

### Pest Calendar - Termite Swarm Season

December marks the time of year when the pest management industry in Florida is getting primed for termite swarm season. Florida's termite swarm season generally runs from mid-December to June, depending on the species of termite. Three groups of termites occur in Florida: subterranean, drywood, and dampwood. Subterranean termites, which nest in the soil, typically swarm from mid-December to mid-May (Fig. 1). Drywood termites nest in dry wood, and usually swarm between April and July. Dampwood termites infest damp wood, and swarm in late spring or summer, but we do not usually consider these economically important.

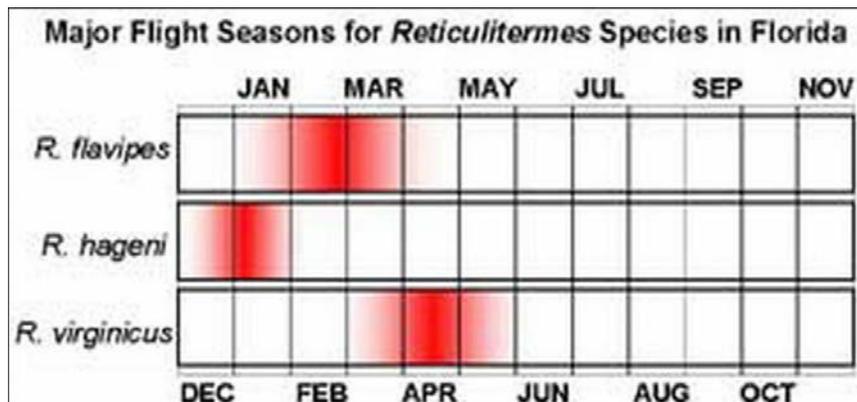


Fig 1. Flight seasons of three *Reticulitermes* species in Florida. Graphic by: Nan-Yao Su and R. H. Scheffrahn, University of Florida.

## PMU Focus - Termite Swarms

By Mike Bentley

Like many other social insects, termites live in cooperative groups called *colonies*. Termites belong to different *castes* (workers, soldiers, or winged reproductives) depending on their functional role within the colony (Fig. 2). *Termite swarming* is the dispersal and mating behavior exhibited by winged reproductive termites attempting to establish a new colony. In next month's issue we will review inspection and identification tips for dealing with termites.



Fig 2. Subterranean termite castes from left: worker, soldier, winged reproductive. Photo from: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ig097> Credit: University of Georgia.

## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

If you plan on taking the [State Certified Operator examination](#) through PMU, you **must**

- Take both the Foundations and Masters courses
- Must be approved by the state to take the exam
- To be approved, have your [state exam application](#) submitted to FDACS by
  - **Sept 1, 2015** for the WDO exam. The WDO exam will be held on Oct 16, after the Termite Masters course ends
  - **Sept 15, 2015** for the GHP exam. The GHP exam will be held on Oct 30, after the GHP Masters course ends

### Foundations of Turf Management

**Date:** January 13-15, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee: \$375**

Learn about common turf varieties, turf diseases, IPM of turf pests, methods of sampling, equipment calibration, turf maintenance requirements and more!

[Register here](#)

**Foundations of Termite Management (Only 7 seats remaining!)**

**Date:** January 21-23, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**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 5 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](#)

**Foundations of General Household Pest Management**

**Date:** February 11-13, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee: \$375**

Pest control matters. Cockroach allergen mitigation can be achieved with IPM.

- Study domestic and peridomestic cockroach species and how to control them as well as rodent, small fly, filth fly, fire ant and nuisance ant management.
- Review the labels of commonly used GHP products, practice pest inspections at PMU's house and develop treatment strategies focused on IPM.
- Do a vehicle inspection and spill drill with Paul Mitola from DACS.

[Register here](#)

## WDO Inspections and Form 13645

**Date:** March 12-13, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$220

Improperly completed 13645 forms are a leading cause of litigation for pest control. Foundations recommended, but not required.

- Do an inspection at PMUs house for WDOs with Paul Mitola from DACS.
- Learn the proper determination of "live, damage and evidence" and how to use DACS 13645.
- Learn from industry attorney Mark Ruff about the legal ramifications of an incomplete WDOI, using case studies and a mock trial video.
- Review WDO biology and behavior.

[Register here](#)

## 2015 PMU Proposed Schedule

| Proposed 2015   | Course   |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>January</b>  |  |
| 1/13-1/15       | Foundations of Ornamental Turf Tentative                           |
| Jan 21-23       | Termite Foundations 101 (2)<br>Open, <a href="#">register here</a> |
|                 |  |
| <b>February</b> |  |
| Feb. 3-5        | GHP Foundations 101 (1)<br><b>(CLOSED, FULL)</b>                   |
| Feb 11-13       | GHP Foundations 101 (2)<br>Open, <a href="#">register here</a>     |
| 2/18-20         | Foundations of Ornamental Turf Tentative                           |
| Feb 25-27       | Termite Foundations 101 (3)  |
|                 |  |
| <b>March</b>    |  |
| March 12-13     | WDO Inspections (1)<br>Open,, <a href="#">register here</a>        |
| 3/18-3/20       | Foundations of Ornamental Turf                                     |
| March 25-27     | GHP Foundations 101 (2)  |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
|                  |  |
| <b>April</b>     |  |
| April 15-17      | Termite Foundations 101 (4)                  |
| April 29-May 1   | GHP Foundations 101 (3)<br>*if needed        |
|                  |  |
| <b>May</b>       |  |
|                  |  |
| <b>June</b>      |  |
| June 25          | GHP Basics                                   |
| June 26          | Termite Basics                               |
|                  |  |
|                  |  |
| <b>July</b>      |  |
|                  |  |
| <b>August</b>    |  |
| 8/26-8/28        | Foundations of Ornamental Turf               |
| <b>September</b> |  |
| Sept. 16-18      | Termite Foundations 101 (5)                  |
| Sept 30-Oct 2    | GHP Foundations (4)                          |
|                  |  |
| <b>October</b>   |  |
| Oct 14-16        | Termite Masters with state exam<br>Friday PM |
| 10/21-10/23      | Foundations of Ornamental Turf               |
|                  |  |
| Oct 28-30        | GHP Masters with state exam<br>Friday PM     |
|                  |  |
| <b>November</b>  |  |
|                  |  |
|                  |  |
| <b>December</b>  |  |
| Dec 2-4          | GHP Expert                                   |
| Dec 16-18        | L&O Masters with state exam                  |

Click on links for course descriptions or go to <http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses> for more information

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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/>