Jacksonville’s Community-wide Integrated Pest Management Approach to Tackle the Invasive Formosan Termite in Urban Trees

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Fun Formosan Termite Facts

• *Copotermes formosanus*
• Invasive subterranean termite
• 3 to 10 million individuals in a colony
• Forage 300’ from nest
• Build aerial carton nests
• Infest living trees
• Swarm late April – July in the evenings
Termite infestation forces Cummer to demolish Women's Club of Jax building

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—A particularly invasive and pernicious termite infestation is forcing the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in Riverside to demolish a building in which they've invested $7 million.

Battling back the infestation would prove to be financially prohibitive and the museum decided in early March that they couldn’t save the building.
Termites and Trees

- 2017 – 15-20 trees removed with termites
- $4,635-$6,180 in overall economic value*
- Intercepting between 280,335 and 373,780 gallons of stormwater*

*National Tree Benefit Calculator
What? - Objectives

• Trees in rights-of-ways and parks
• Educate residents about termites & protecting their properties
• Suppress termite populations while protecting trees and urban canopy
• Create a model that can be used elsewhere
WHO?

Jacksonville Formosan Termite Task Force

- Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Pest Control Industry
- City of Jacksonville – Mayor’s Office, Public Works, Buildings, Preservation
- Northeast Florida Association of Relators
- UF Department of Entomology and Nematology
- FAMU Department of Entomology
- Jacksonville Residents
- Chemical Manufacturers – DOW, BASF, Bayer
- Riverside-Avondale Preservation
- Springfield Preservation Group
HOW?

• Monitoring Project
• Tree Inspection Protocol
• Tree Treatment Protocol
• Education Campaign
• UF Intern

http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/termites.shtml
WHAT’S NEXT?

• Education campaign for residents
• IPM strategy for management of city-owned trees
  • Tree data – diameter, species, age, damage
  • Species replacement
• Grant with FAMU
• Regional implications
Special Thank You:

Technical Advisors:
• New Orleans Mosquito, Termite, and Rodent Board
• Louisiana State University
• UF Urban Entomology

Volunteers:
• Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department
• Jacksonville Electric Authority
• Councilman Jim Love
• Jacksonville Mayor’s Office
• Local Pest Control Companies

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