

# Termites in Trees

Formosan subterranean termites can make a meal out of almost any live tree. They eat away at the tree until it can no longer support itself, causing the tree to fall. The termite nest inside the tree can house millions of termites that can attack and damage surrounding wooden structures.

## Detecting Termites in Trees

### ***Where to Look***

**Look for shelter tubes on the trunk.**

*One of the first signs that a tree is infested with Formosan subterranean termites is shelter tubes constructed on the exterior of the trunk.*



**Dig around the base for termites.**

*Dig into the soil between the root flares with a hand trowel. If termites are there, they are usually easy to find.*





## **Look for swarm castles at limb scars.**

*Formosan subterranean termites also can be found in pruning scars where limbs were removed. These sites are especially active in the spring during swarm season. Termites use sites like the one in the photo as launch pads for thousands of winged alates.*

**If termites are detected, have the tree treated by a licensed pest control operator. An arborist licensed by the state also can treat trees.**

**Visit our Web site: [www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)**

**LSU AgCenter termite specialists:**

**Chris Dunaway, Extension Associate**

**Alan Morgan, Ph.D., Professor**

**Dennis Ring, Ph.D., Professor**

**Louisiana State University Agricultural Center**

**William B. Richardson, Chancellor**

**Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station**

**David Boethel, Vice Chancellor and Director**

**Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service**

**Paul D. Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director**

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