

Louisiana Termite Certified License Exam Study Guide

Wood Damage and Specimens that you will have to identify from samples they will have laid out.

- **Specimens**
 - Carpenter bee
 - Native subterranean alates
 - Formosan workers and carton nest in jar
 - Anobiid powderpost beetle
 - Native workers and soldiers
 - Bostrichid beetle
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- **Damage**
 - Brown cubicle rot
 - White pocket rot
 - Carpenter ant damage
 - Drywood termite damage
 - Subterranean termite damage
 - Ambrosia beetle damage
 - Lyctid beetle damage in small piece of hardwood
 - Old house borer damage
 - Anobiid powderpost beetle damage
 - Carpenter bee damage

Exam will have the following types of questions:

- Essay/Discussion
- Fill in the blank
- Short answer
- Multiple choice
- True/False

Essay Discussion Questions:

Describe in detail how you would treat active powder post beetles in the subfloor, joist and sills. In discussion, include what product you will use and at what rate.

2 guidelines for determining if there is an active powder post beetle infestation

1. Active larvae/pupae are observed
2. Frass/powder falling from holes

Minimum Specification for Termite Treatment

Be able to discuss, in detail, how to treat the following items on a pier construction:

(you will need to list the product you will be using and the rate you will use for each area per the label.

DO NOT PUT THAT YOU WILL USE A BAITING SYSTEM)

- L-shaped brick pier
- T- shaped brick pier
- Hollow block pier
- Solid concrete pier
- Double brick chain wall
- Triple brick chain wall
- Dirt filled porch
- Wooden steps touching the ground (soil contact)
- Wooden supports touching the ground (soil contact)
- Fireplaces

The information from the following sections, will be in fill in the blank, true/false, and/or multiple choice form on the exam

Basic Termite Biology

- Termite have exoskeleton
- Termites exchange food via trophallaxis
- Termite antennae are moniliform (beaded)
- Termite alates
 - Only winged members
 - Have 2 pair of antennae
- Termite colony castes: queen, worker, soldiers
- Termite alates have compound eyes
- Drywood termite produce fecal pellets which have 6 grooves in them
- 2 types of subterranean termites found in Louisiana
 - Formosan
 - Native (Reticulitermes)

Drywood termites

- Have the ability to live in wood without the contact of soil since their moisture requirements are much less than subterranean termites
- Eject tiny pellets from holes in wood
- Have clean chambers and tunnel in wood without frass and leave hard pellets in galleries.
- Nymphs develop into either soldier or reproductive
- The control of drywood termites can be done in 2 ways depending on infestation
 - Direct spot treatment
 - Fumigation

Wood Destroying Beetles

- Treatment for wood destroying beetles can only be performed if there is live infestation:
 - Active larvae/pupae are observed
 - Frass/powder falling from holes.
 - Preventative treatments cannot be performed.
- To protect wood from wood destroying beetles, the moisture content should not exceed 15%.
- Ambrosia beetle damage: wood contains pin holes with dark stains around the hole

Subterranean Termites

- Formosan can have nests up to 5 million individuals
- Construct mud tubes to forage through. These mud tubes protect them from predators and help retain moisture.

Construction

- 3 slab types
 - Monolithic
 - Floating
 - Supported
- Treatments not recommended for plenum foundations

Termiticides/basic treatment terms

- Name 5 active ingredients approved for soil treatment against subterranean termites
 - Bifenthrin
 - Cypermethrin
 - Permethrin
 - Imidacloprid
 - Fipronil
- Spot treatment: 2 square feet

Minimum Specifications

- According to La Structural Pest Control Rules and Regulations, when a slab is vertically drilled along an expansion joint, the holes cannot be further than 18 inches apart.
- La Structural Pest Control Law requires that subterranean termite contract be guaranteed for a period of at least 1 year. Pretreat contracts require at least 5 year damage repair warranty.
- If, during the treatment of any area which will be beneath a slab foundation, the operator shall leave the site for any reason prior to the completion of the application, the operator shall prominently display a poster, approved by the department, which states that the treatment of the area under the slab is not complete.
- Within 12 months of after the initial pretreatment of the ground below the slab, the outside foundation will be trenched and treated.
- For liquid treatment (trench and treats) All trenches shall be approximately 4 inches wide at the top angled toward the foundation and sufficiently deep (approximately 6 inches) to permit application of the required chemical.
- All skirting and lattice-work shall rest on solid concrete or brick extending at least 3 inches above the outside grade. This base will be trenched and treated.
- All bait stations, except those products in the pilot project, shall be monitored\inspected according to the label and labeling
- When treating a structure for subterranean termites, it is important to break direct contact of wood portions of the structure because these can serve as avenues of entry for termites into the structure.

WDIR

- LPCA-143 and LPCA 143A are the only WDIR report forms that are currently approved by the La Structural Pest Control Commission.
- 5 conditions listed on the WDIR that increase the possibility of undetected subterranean termite infestation (be able to list these)
 - Wood to ground contact
 - Slab below grade
 - Vegetation or vines growing on exterior wall
 - Bath traps with visual access
 - Live wood destroying insects within 12 inches of the structure
- WDIR carries guarantee that the property will be treated without charge should live wood destroying insects be found within 90 days of the inspection
- Visible evidence of wood destroying insects (be able to list 4)
 - Live or dead wood destroying insects
 - Shelter tubes
 - Frass
 - Exit holes or damaged wood due to wood destroying insects
- To properly inspect for WDIRs, must know
 - Species
 - Habits
 - Recognize damage
- The date of inspection should always be entered on the WDIR
- Section 4 reads “ Pest Control Operator License Number.” The Certified Operators license number is entered in this section.
- Section 5C states “Structure(s) inspected on the property”. You must list all the structures on the property that you have inspected.
- Section 5D states “Only structures listed in 5C were inspected and are included in this report. Detached garages, sheds, lean-tos, fences or other buildings on the property will not be included in this inspection report unless specifically noted”
 - This is an informational section only
 - Nothing is to be written or circled in this section

If evidence of wood destroying damage is observed, Section 8B and 8C should be checked. If visible evidence of damage is found due to wood destroying insects, you DO NOT

- determine the extent or severity of the structural damage you observe
- determine if the damaged area should be replaced
- In section 8D, Treatment was or will be performed by inspection company? YES or No; If YES, explain as follows:
 - Inspecting company **with** a current treatment contract on the structure(s) inspected: list the original treatment date for all structures treated and the contract type.
 - Inspecting company **without** a current treatment contract on the structure(s) inspected: list the structure(s) to be treated and the type of treatment and contract.

- All reports are made on the basis of what is accessible at the time of inspection
- Two important tools necessary for a proper inspection
 - Flashlight
 - Screwdriver
- Most common areas to find subterranean termites in a home is “Bathroom and outside perimeter areas”

Rules and Regulations

- The permittee or a licensee
 - shall report to the commission, no later than the tenth day of each month, each termite contract and initial treatment for a pre-treatment contract for termite work which he has entered into, and performed or completed during the previous month
 - If no contracts were entered into or performed during the previous month, the permittee or a licensee shall report this fact to the commission no later than the tenth of each month.

Essay Questions

Pretreatment

You will be given a footprint of a structure with linear measurements. Be able to describe how you would do a **SOIL** pretreatment.

Know what product you would use and is labeled for pretreat.

For example, if you decide to use **Premise Preconstruction**

1. Explain in detail how you would perform a pretreatment. Provide the name of the product and rate you will be using
 - a. Include use of PPE, mixing the product, where you would treat, etc.
 - b. Below is the exact wording from the Premise Preconstruction label.

Personal Protective Equipment

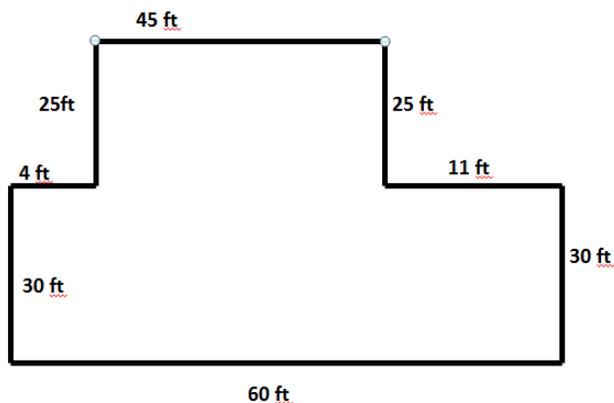
All pesticide handlers (mixers, loaders, and applicators) must wear long-sleeved shirt and long pants, socks, shoes, and chemical-resistant gloves made of waterproof material such as barrier laminate, butyl rubber, nitrile rubber, neoprene rubber, polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride or viton. After the product is diluted in accordance with label directions for use, shirt, pants, socks, shoes must be worn.

Mix the termiticide use dilution in the following manner. Fill tank 1/4 to 1/3 full. If using large sprayer, start pump to begin bypass agitation and place end of treating tool in tank to allow circulation through hose. Add appropriate amount of PREMISE Pre-Construction Insecticide. Add remaining amount of water. Let pump run and allow recirculation through the hose for 2 to 3 minutes.

CONCRETE SLAB-ON-GROUND OR BASEMENTS: *Apply an overall treatment to the entire surface of soil or other substrate to be covered by the slab including areas to be under carports, porches, basement floor and entrance platforms. Apply at the rate of 1 gallon of solution to accurately and uniformly cover 10 square feet. If fill under slab is gravel or other coarse aggregate, apply at the rate of 1.5 gallons or sufficient volume of solution to accurately and uniformly cover 10 square feet. In addition, apply 4 gallons of solution per 10 linear feet to provide a uniform treated zone in soil at critical areas such as along the inside of foundation walls, and around plumbing, bath traps, utility services, and other features that will penetrate the slab.*

After completion of grading, make an application by trenching or trenching and rodding around the slab or foundation perimeter

2. Below is a footprint of a structure similar to what you will see on the exam.
 - a. Calculate the linear footage of the structure.
 - b. Calculate the square footage of the foundation. Be able to find the square footage when given the linear measurements.



Linear footage: 230 LF

Square footage: 3155 sq ft.