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Technical Bulletin

Trelona® ATBS® Advance® Termite Bait System and Flooding

Heavy rainfall, tornadoes, hurricanes and other natural events can lead to flooding. As a consequence of these events, questions regarding the replacement and maintenance of the **Trelona ATBS** Advance Termite Bait System may arise. This bulletin addresses these concerns.

Product recommendations for areas flooded by salt water (storm surge):

Stations currently installed:

- Discard and replace the termite monitoring base (TMB), termite inspection cartridge (TIC) or termite bait cartridges (TBC) affected by salt water with new components. Discard TBCs according to label directions.
- Unless damaged or inaccessible, stations do not have to be replaced.

Stations/components held in inventory:

- For stations in storage, unpack stations, remove internal components, rinse station with fresh water, air dry and replace the TMB, TIC or TBCs with new components. Repack in clean packaging.
- TMB inventory affected by salt water should be discarded and replaced with new TMBs.
- For TICs and TBCs sealed in individual plastic bags, inspect and rinse outer packaging with fresh water, air dry and store for use.
- Products containing **Trelona** Compressed Termite Bait must have a label affixed to one or more of the outer surfaces of the packaging.

Product recommendations for areas flooded by fresh water (domestic water, rainfall, lakes and streams)

Stations currently installed:

- Typically, fresh water flooding will not adversely affect components within **Trelona ATBS** Advance Termite Bait Station.
- Inspect the TMBs, TICs and/or TBCs for signs of mold or decay and replace as needed.
- It is recommended when stations have been flooded for 14 days or more to replace the TBCs.
- Unless damaged or inaccessible, stations do not have to be replaced.

Stations/components held in inventory:

- For stations in storage, unpack stations, remove the TMBs, TICs or TBCs and air dry. After drying, replace the TMB, TIC or TBC back into the station. Due to the water holding capacity of the TICs and TBCs and difficulty in drying, it may be necessary to discard these components and replace with fresh material to reduce mold development. Repack in clean packaging.
- Air dry TMB inventory before repacking. Drying the TMBs should decrease mold development.
- Inspect and rinse outer packaging, air dry and repack TICs and TBCs sealed in individual plastic bags.
- Products containing **Trelona** Compressed Termite Bait must have a label affixed to one or more of the outer surfaces of the packaging.

Q Do stations that are inaccessible or missing have to be replaced?

A When stations cannot be located because they have been covered or physically moved, they should be replaced, as needed, to reestablish station spacing interval that is consistent with the label.

Q How will novaluron, the active ingredient in Trelona®, react in severe flooding situations?

A Novaluron, the active ingredient in the **Trelona** Compressed Termite Bait, is a chitin synthesis inhibitor that works primarily by inhibiting the normal molting cycle of insects. The water solubility (0.95 mg/L) is low and bait typically stays within the cartridge.

If a warehouse area is affected by hurricanes or floods and a case of product is washed into the flood waters, remember that each individual cartridge is wrapped and protected from the water. If the plastic wrapper remains intact, the bait can be used.

Q What is likely to happen to termite populations in flooding affected areas?

A There are limited scientific data available that measure or determine the impact of flooding on termite activity or populations, nor how termite activity may rebound over time. Forschler & Henderson (1995)* recorded increased mortality of termite populations with flooding events that lasted 10 hours or more. However, populations were not all eliminated and were present for rebounding post flooding.

Q We have Formosan termites in our area. How may extensive flooding and damage affect Formosan termites and their distribution?

A Formosan termites may end up being more widespread in these areas because of the immediate destructive and dispersing nature of storms. Termites may also be moved by human activity such as ongoing and pending clean up, removal of infested trees, transport of infested mulches, chippings, etc, and removal of infested buildings and building components. Many of these items may end up in landfills, ditches, pastures, countryside areas, swamps, etc. As a consequence of this, Formosan termite pressure may be more widespread and in time more severe. Native termites may also be spread in this manner.

If you have further questions, please contact your BASF Sales Specialist or Technical Representative or visit: pestcontrol.basf.us

*Forschler, B.T., & G. Henderson. 1995 Environ. Entomol. 24(6): 1592-1597 (1995)

Always read and follow label directions.