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Best Practices for Replacement of Trelona® Termite Bait Cartridges*

This bulletin provides guidelines to determine if a **Trelona** Termite Bait Cartridge (TBC) needs replacing based on four criteria: consumption by termites, removal, degradation, and decay. In nature, recycling of plant material starts with microorganisms in the soil. Fungi, bacteria and molds are usually the first to initiate the decay process, and are commonly followed by termites and other arthropods. **Data suggests that termites prefer weathered and aged wood material that have been impacted by microorganisms**.

IMPORTANT!

Cartridge replacement recommendations

Cartridge condition†	Replace?
1. More than 1/3 of bait cartridge has been consumed or removed.	Yes
2. Cartridge surface area has a soft gelatinous/slimy consistency.	Yes
3. Less than 1/3 of cartridge content is crumbling and/or fragmented.	No
4. Surface area has orange, pink, and/or yellow mold.	No
5. Cartridge surface area has black, green, and/or brown mold.	No

†If unsure, lightly probe the contents of the cartridge through the access holes using a cotter pin puller or similar tool and replace **ONLY** if integrity of the bait tablets has been **SEVERELY** compromised.

Remember: Termites love ugly cartridges

New vs. consumed
(replace only consumed)

DO NOT replace unless integrity is compromised

DO NOT replace

DO NOT replace

*For all Trelona products.
Trelona is a registered trademark of BASF.

Q Do Trelona® ATBS Annual Bait 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 to reestablish station spacing intervals that are consistent with the label.

Q How will novaluron, the active ingredient in Trelona ATBS Annual Bait Stations, react in severe flooding situations?

A Novaluron, the active ingredient in the termite bait cartridge (TBC), 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 the bait matrix typically stays in the cartridge; therefore, we anticipate no adverse effects from severe flooding.

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

A There is limited scientific data available that measures or determines the impact of flooding on termite activity or populations, nor how termite activity may rebound over time. Forschler & Henderson (1995)[1] recorded increased mortality of termite populations with flooding events that lasted 10 hours or more. However, all populations were not eliminated and were present for rebounding post flooding.

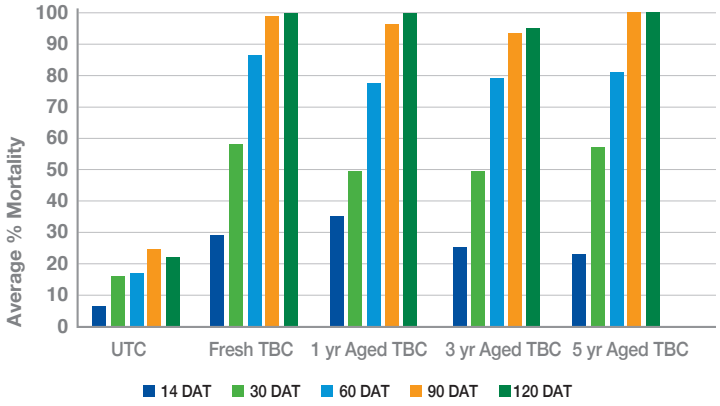
Q For areas with Formosan termites, how might extensive flooding and damage affect Formosans and their distribution?

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., and as a consequence Formosan termite pressure may be more widespread and in time more severe. Native termites may also be spread in the same manner.

Q How long will Trelona Termite Bait Cartridges last under field conditions?

A A 2023 field study demonstrated that Trelona TBCs can remain efficacious for at least five years post application.[2]

Mortality (%) of *Reticulitermes spp.* exposed to aged Trelona Bait over time



For more details about this study, use this QR code:

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

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

[2]BASF P&SS Sponsored Study 20DAR011, Center for Urban & Structural Entomology, Texas A&M University.

Always read and follow label directions.