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Survey establishing the Formosan subterranean termite (Coptotermes formosanus) within Louisiana Claudia Riegel, Carrie Cottone, Eric Guidry, Timothy Madere, Barry Yokum

The Formosan subterranean termite, Coptotermes formosanus, has become the most economically important structural pest in New Orleans, Louisiana since its introduction into the city. It has displaced indigenous termite species through their aggressive nature and large colony size. Formosan subterranean termites often cause extensive damage to wooden structures and frequently infest and consume living trees. Multiple surveys documenting established colonies have taken place throughout the Southeastern United States. Since the last published known distribution of Formosan subterranean termites in Louisiana, established colonies have been located within eight parishes in which this termite had not previously been observed. Currently, forty-one of the sixtyfour parishes have established Formosan subterranean termite colonies. Introduction of this termite into new locations have economic, as well as quarantine implications.