A system for protection of structures from subterranean termites utilizing monitoring and baiting with Shatter™ termite bait.

General Information

The Hex-Pro™ Termite Baiting System represents an integrated pest management approach for the protection of structures from subterranean termite colonies, including Coptotermes, Reticulitermes, and Heterotermes spp. and is intended to form the basis of an on-going program. Use of this pest management system involves three steps: (1) monitoring for the presence or activity of termites in and around the target site, (2) delivery of a slow acting insect growth regulator (IGR) such as Shatter™ termite bait when and where the presence or activity of subterranean termites has been detected, and (3) resumption of monitoring for the presence or activity of termites after control has been achieved. Although the third phase of the pest management system is the optional service offered to the owner of the structure, it can provide an on-going preventive service in order to detect new termite activity.

The primary components of the Hex-Pro Termite Baiting System include: (1) a station for monitoring and baiting (Figure 1), (2) a monitoring device for detection of termite feeding activity, and (3) a bait cartridge containing Shatter termite bait (Figure 2).

When termite activity is detected and subsequent feeding on Shatter termite bait is established, bait cartridges should continue to be replenished as long as the bait material is being consumed and termites remain active in the bait cartridges. When termite activity ceases in the bait cartridges, monitoring to detect the presence of new termite activity may be resumed by substituting a monitoring device for the bait cartridge.

For best results from the use of the Hex-Pro Termite Baiting System, it is important for technicians to understand the biology and behavior of subterranean termite species and construction and landscape features conducive to infestation by subterranean termites.

General System Guidelines

Target sites for station placement include buildings, fences, utility poles, decking, landscape plantings and trees or other features which could be damaged by termite feeding and foraging activity.

Monitoring

The purpose of the monitoring phase is to detect the presence or activity of subterranean termites and to allow for identification of stations that are to be baited. This procedure does not attract termites from other locations. If termites are present, individual termites may be collected from the monitoring device. Upon collection, these termites may be placed inside the bait cartridge containing Shatter™ termite bait to allow tunneling through the bait material. This facilitates their return to the colony for “recruiting” nestmates to feed on Shatter. This recruitment procedure may further encourage the subterranean termite population to forage into and feed on Shatter termite bait.

1. Hex-Pro Termite Station Placement: Hex-Pro Termite Stations should be placed in the soil around the perimeter foundation of the structure. For crawl space areas, the stations can be placed along the inside of the foundation walls. Recommended spacing is 8-10 feet, but should not exceed 20 feet where soil access is not restricted.

The applicator should also identify critical areas suitable for placing Hex-Pro Termite Stations. Critical areas include locations within or adjacent to visible termite activity such as indicated by: foraging tubes, termite infested plants, wood, and other materials; and areas conducive to termite foraging (bath traps, moist soil in shaded areas, near irrigation sprinkler heads, roof down spouts, and other moist areas and near planting beds or other areas with plant root systems).

Hex-Pro™ Termite Stations should not be placed in soil treated with pesticides (such as lawn applications or perimeter sprays) until such pesticide has dried. Avoid spraying the stations directly when making pesticide applications. Do not place stations in soil previously treated with a liquid termicide. Do not place stations where they will interfere with gardening or lawn maintenance operations, such as mowing or irrigation. When possible, it is desirable to avoid public tampering with the stations by covering them with soil, mulch, leaf litter, debris, etc. or by placing them in inconspicuous locations where they are not readily visible. Termites may discontinue or avoid foraging in stations which are frequently disturbed.
2. Installation of Hex-Pro Termite Stations: Hex-Pro Termite Stations should be placed in the soil such that the top is flush with the soil surface. For ease, the monitoring device should be in place and the station top cap secure at the time of installation.

Record the location of the stations on a map or graph of the site for future inspection.

3. Monitoring of Hex-Pro Termite Stations: All Hex-Pro Termite Stations should be visually monitored at regular intervals for the presence or activity of termites. Monitoring should be conducted at approximately monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly intervals. A monitoring device should be replaced when severely damaged by other insects or fungal decay.

When termites or termite activity are present during an inspection of a monitoring device, the monitoring device should be removed from its station and replaced with a bait cartridge containing Shatter termite bait according to Shatter label instructions. Additionally when termites or termite activity are detected in a monitoring device, install one or more additional Hex-Pro Termite Stations (auxiliary stations) in the soil within 6 to 12 inches of the infested station, if feasible. When an infested Hex-Pro Termite Station is baited with Shatter termite bait, it is strongly recommended that one or more of the auxiliary stations be baited with Shatter termite bait to increase bait volume and maximize bait consumption. See Shatter product label for details.

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Always read and follow label directions.

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