

GENERAL AGRICULTURAL INSECT-PESTS

TERMITES

Microtermes obesi



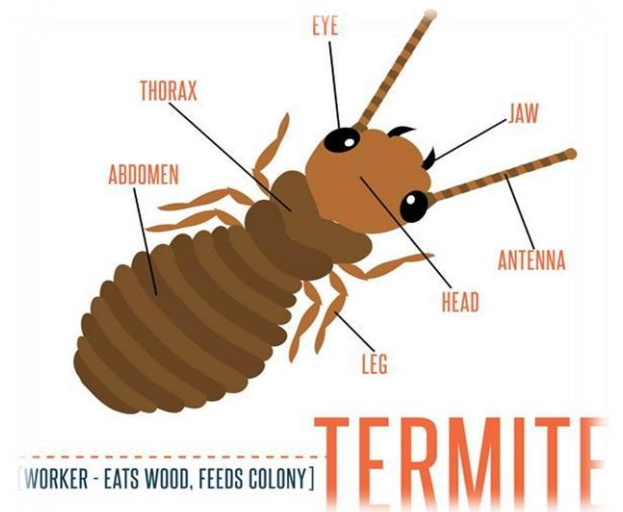
Odonototermes obesus



Taxonomy

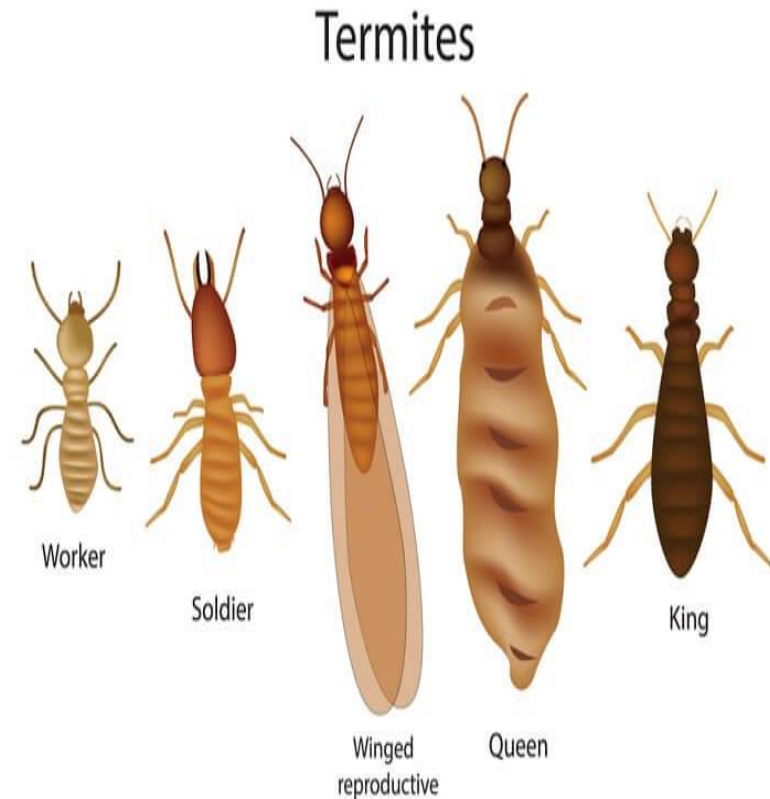
TERMITES

- *T.N:* *Microtermes obesi*
 Odonototermes obesus
- *Family:* Termitidae
- *Order:* Isoptera



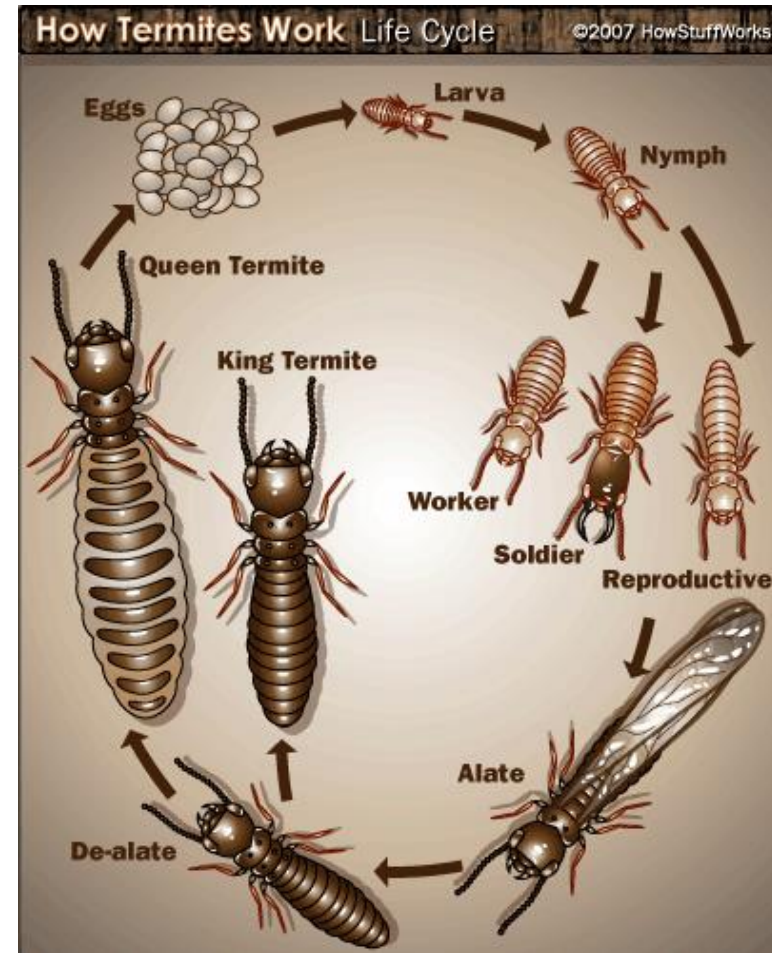
Social insect living in colonies ***with following individuals:***

Queen	Large, abdomen greatly stretched. Lay eggs
King	Small, mates with queen
Soldier	Head flat, long scissor like mandibles and shield shaped pronotum, defend colony
Worker	Head small, Take care of young ones, feed queen and collect food
Fungus comb	found cultivated in fungus garden. Young ones feed on these combs
Royal chamber	King and queen live in this chamber



Biology

- Lives in nests underground
- Winged seen on light during monsoon
- Colony headed by king and queen
- (K&Q) live in royal chamber deeply hidden in termitarium and is monogamous
- Brachypterous and Apterous forms are present in the progeny of Macropterous Royalties
- These are reproductive and can replace royal couple when necessary



- Eggs stage 1 week
- Nymphal stage 6 months
- Queen 5-10 years

Damage

- They destroy the wood, fences, articles of household and wooden poles that directly contact with soil
- Also damage cotton, sugarcane, wheat, fruits, vegetables and shade trees

Control



- Use of farm yard manure or green manure in the infested field should be avoided
- Wooden structure of buildings should not directly touch the ground
- Spray 0.5% chlorpyrifos