



Termites in the Keys

FOR THE

#GATORGOOD

Michelle Leonard-Mularz
Environmental Horticulture Agent

Termites in the Keys

Florida Dampwood Termites:

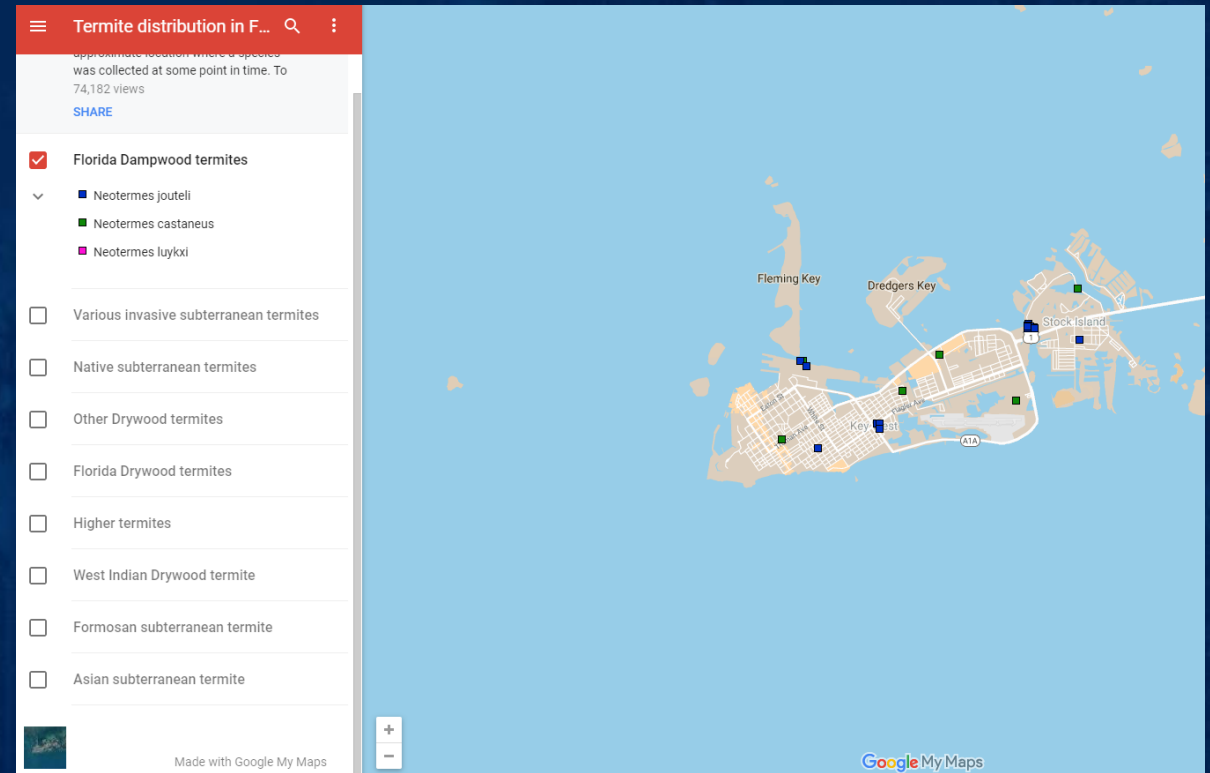
Neotermes jouteli

Neotermes castaneus



Neotermes castaneus

Credit: Daniel Carillo

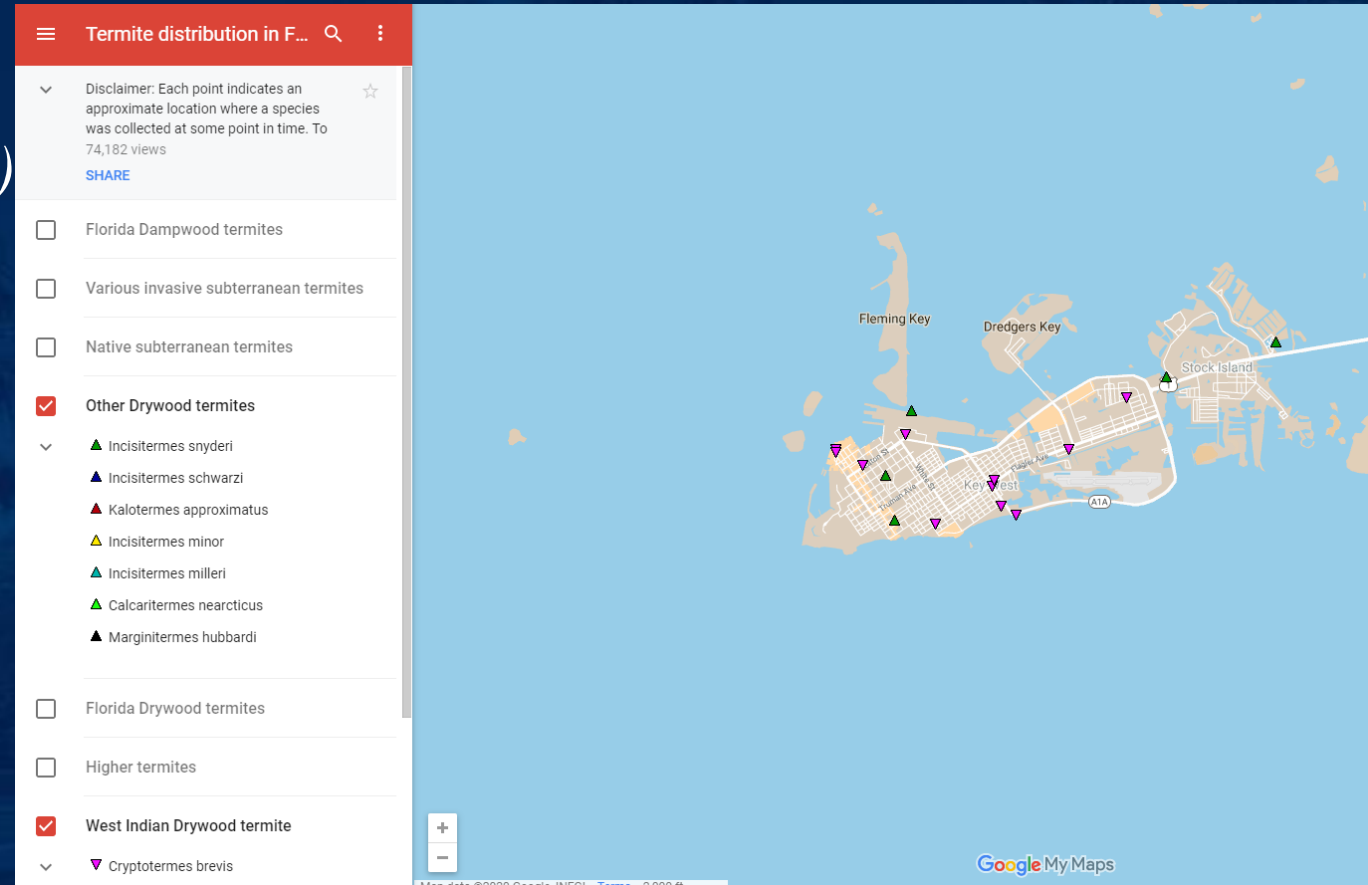


- Structural infestations are associated with sources of free water
- Prefers to nest in living trees
- Overall health of the tree is usually not directly affected
- Minor pest status

Termites in the Keys

Drywood Termites:

West Indian Drywood (*Cryptotermes brevis*)
Incisitermes snyderi



- Major economic pest
- Only found in structures
- Introduced into the US through Key West before 1919

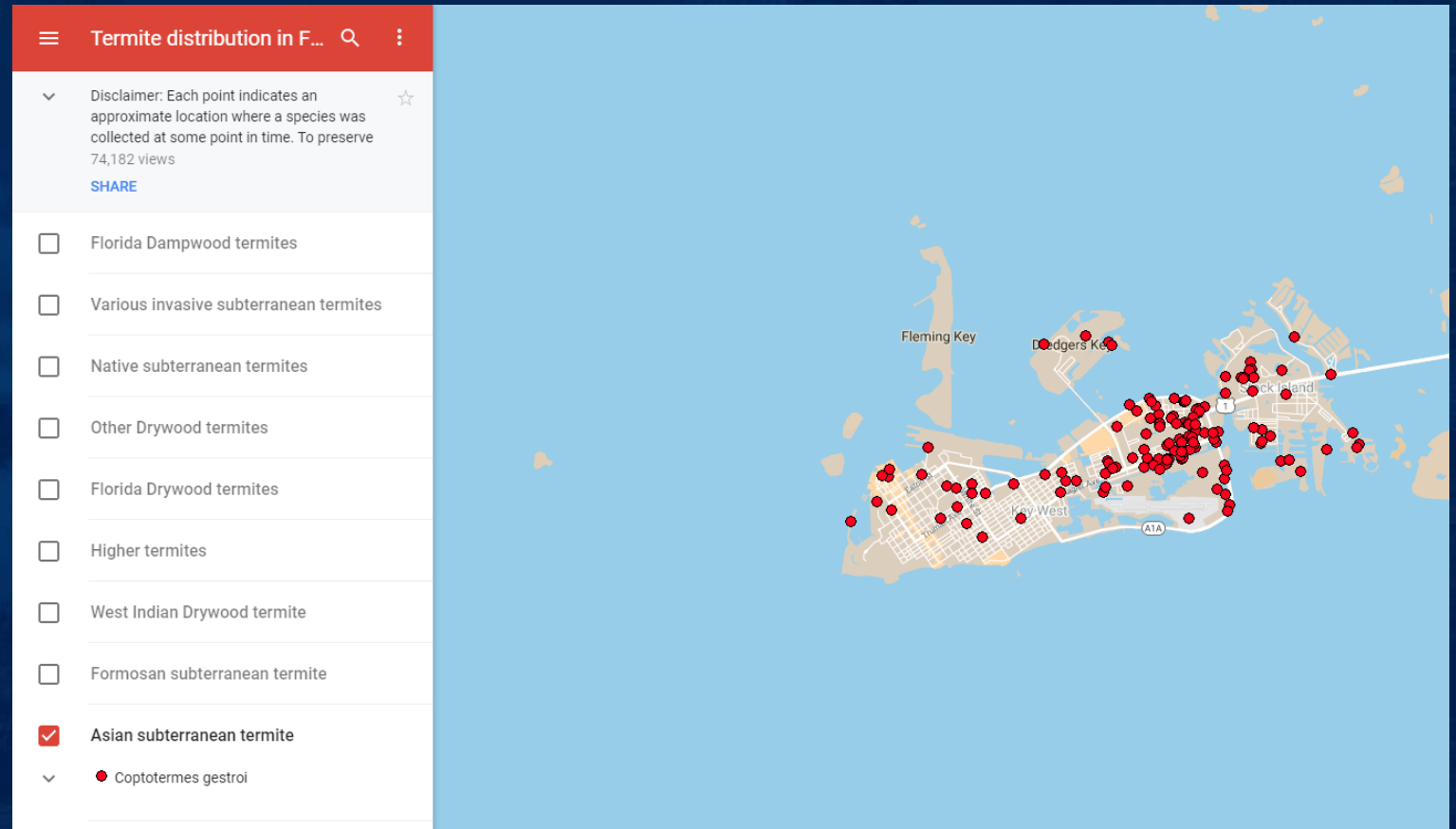
Termites in the Keys

Subterranean Termites:

Asian subterranean termite
(*Coptotermes gestroi*)



Credit: Rudolf Scheffrahn



- Major economic pest of structures
- Will also infest living trees
- Can cause heavy damage in a shorter time period



Damage caused by (*Coptotermes gestroi*)

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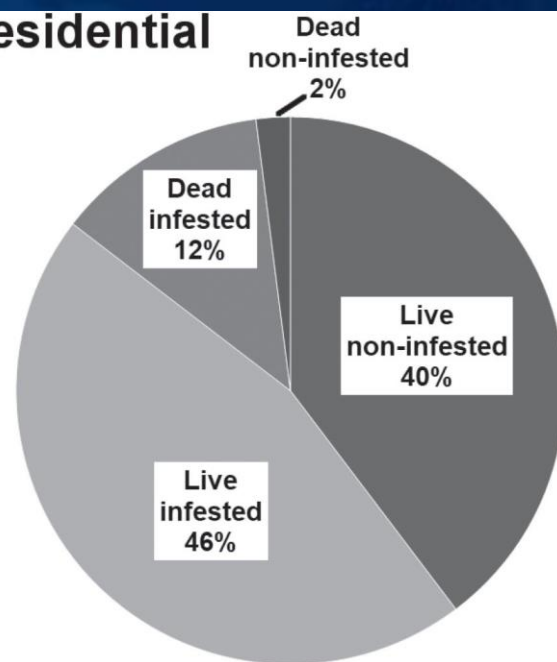
[Translator Disclaimer](#)

***Coptotermes gestroi* (Wasmann) (Blattodea [Isoptera]: Rhinotermitidae), a Threat to the Southeastern Florida Urban Tree Canopy**

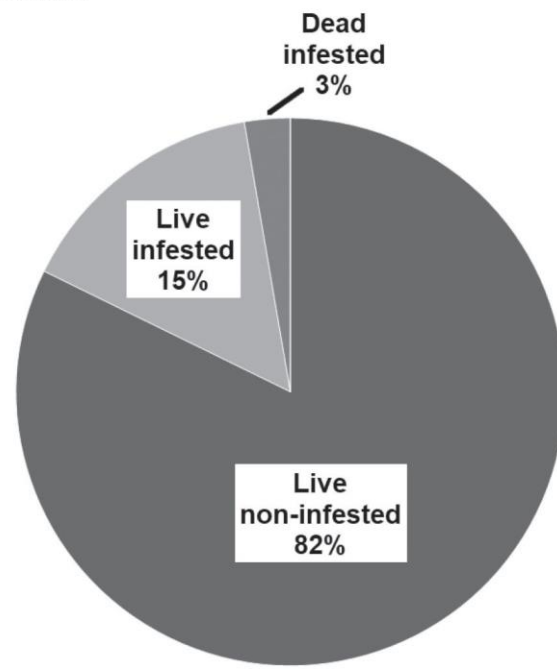
[Thomas Chouvenc](#), [Jeremiah R. Foley IV](#)

Live Oak, *Quercus virginiana*
 Sabal palm, *Sabal palmetto*
 Pindo palm, *Butia capitata*
 Royal Poinciana, *Delonix regia*
 Glaucous cassia, *Senna surattensis*
 Australian umbrella tree, *Schefflera actinophylla*

A. Residential



B. Parks



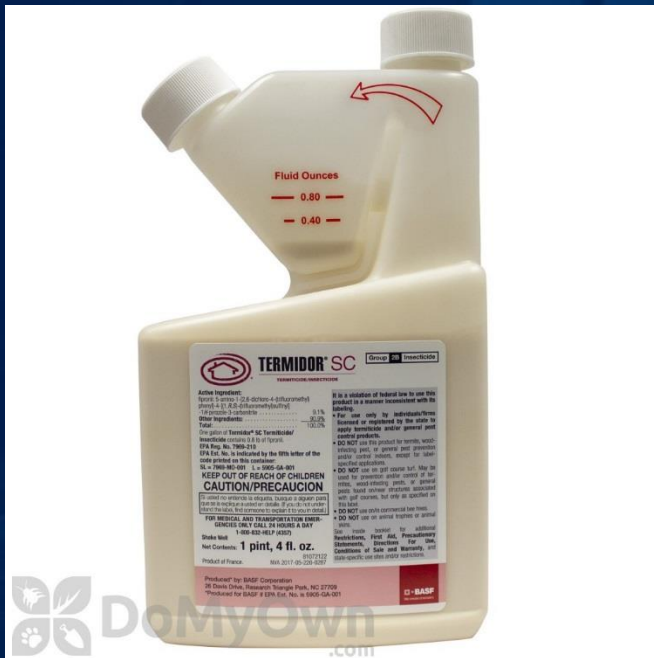
Treatment

CSI termite baits

- ✓ Complete colony elimination

Liquid termiticides

- ✓ While it may prevent flow of termites in and out of infested tree; may not prevent damage to tree
- ✓ Non water-soluble termiticides (fipronil) would not be picked up by tree
- ✓ Soluble termiticides (imidacloprid) may be translocated at high doses, but effectiveness is unlikely



Live Oak hollowed out by *C. gestroi*



<https://flrec.ifas.ufl.edu/termites-in-florida/>

Termite Identification

UF/IFAS, Monroe County Extension Service
1100 Simonton Street, suite 2-260
Key West, FL 33040
(305) 292-4501
mleonard@ufl.edu

Rudolf Scheffran or Thomas Chouvenc
Ft Lauderdale Research and Education Center
University of Florida IFAS
3205 College Ave
33314 Davie FL, USA.



UF | **IFAS Extension**
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA