

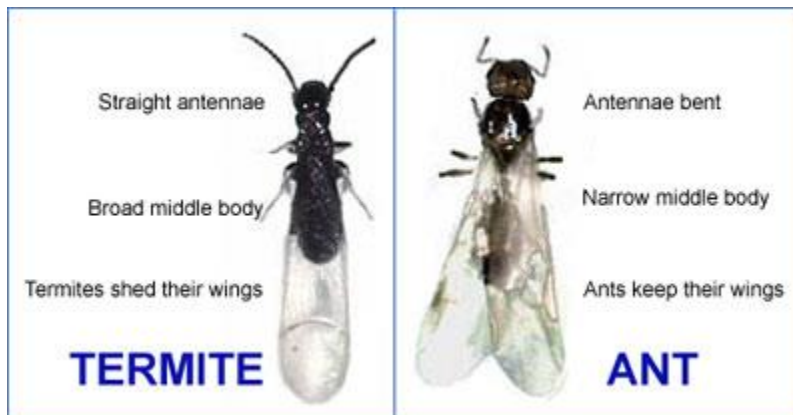
TERMITES OR ANTS?

YOU NEED TO KNOW

Eastern Oklahoma has had unusually warm temperatures through March, April, and May. Because of this, you may have noticed an increase in insects and pests in your lawns and gardens. This has also caused an increase in the swarming of ants and termites. If you do have a swarm of insects, you should make an exact identification of what type of insect is causing the problem before you apply any kind of insecticide or pesticide for them. This, of course, will lead you to deciding what pesticide or insecticide must be used in order to control the particular insect or pest. Proper termite identification is very important due to the amount of extreme damage that can occur if the termites are not properly treated and treated early.

There are two types of termites; Subterranean and Drywood. Each needs a different type of treatment.

Here are ways to help you identify ANTS vs TERMITES. While both the ant and termite have narrow bodies, the ant's body has a narrow waist while the termite has a thick waist. Both have antennae, but the ant's antennae is elbowed while the Termite's antennae is straight. Ants will have longer legs than termites. When wings are present, the wings of the termite are the same length, but the front wings of the ant are longer than the back wings.



Once you have identified which insect you have, it's time for treatment. Treatments differ greatly! In most cases, professional help is needed for termites. For ants, try to find where they are entering the house and use caulking to seal up their entry point/points, and then apply ant insecticides. Alternatively, ant baits which are made for use in and around the house can certainly be used. Ant baits can also be used in and around the garden beds.

More information on this subject is available at our Master Gardeners office located at 4116 East 15th Street or on our web site @ tulsamastergardeners.org.

Look for or ask for Fact Sheet [EPP-7312](#) (Household Pest Control).