

## Pop-Up” Indicator Alerts Homeowners When Termites Are Near

Louisiana State University & A&M College



Termites continue to be a huge problem for homeowners. Every year more than 600,000 homes are damaged by termites causing over \$1.5 billion in damage.

Professor Gregg Henderson and graduate student Jay Paxson, researchers at the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, invented an early-warning device called the “Pop-up Termite Indicator” in 1999–2000. Research was funded by Louisiana State University Agricultural Center.

The invention allows for the detection of termites by placing a termite feedstock in the ground.

““ *When termites eat through the feedstock an indicator flag pops up, indicating the presence of termites and also the need to treat the premises to eradicate the termite problem.*

This simple and cost-effective method allows homeowners to monitor their property for the presence of termites. Most pest control companies use a ground treatment to prevent termites from gaining access to the structure. However if the chemical treatment fails, a homeowner never knows until the termites have already done the damage. The “Pop-Up Termite Indicator” allows homeowners to monitor for termite presence as part of their overall termite prevention

strategy.

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