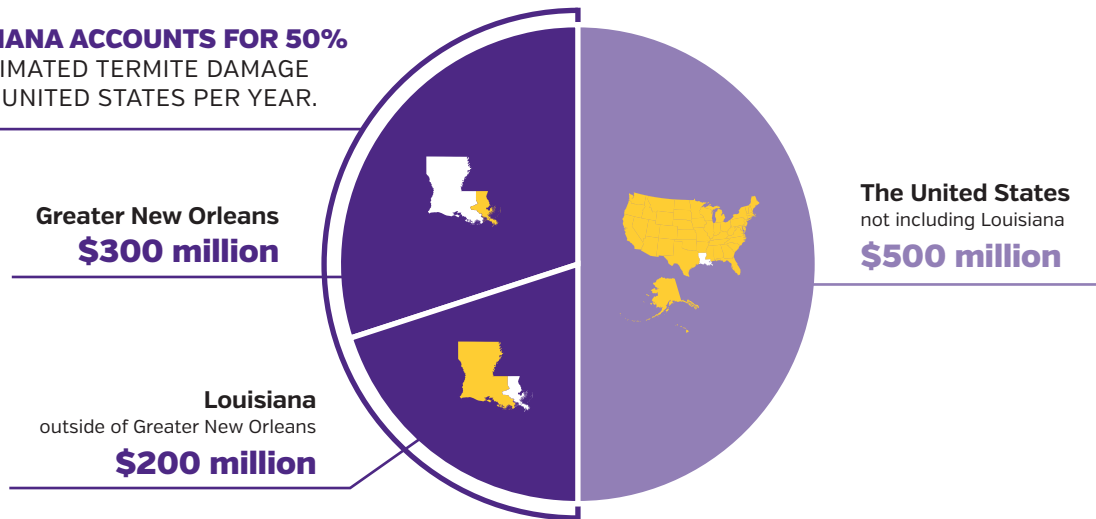


## Termites cause destruction to homes, businesses, and natural habitat.

ESTIMATED TERMITE DAMAGE PER YEAR

**LOUISIANA ACCOUNTS FOR 50% OF ESTIMATED TERMITE DAMAGE IN THE UNITED STATES PER YEAR.**



**41 OF 64 PARISHES IN LOUISIANA HAVE FORMOSAN TERMITES.**

**A MEDIUM-SIZED COLONY CAN EAT THROUGH ONE FOOT OF A 2 X 4 BOARD IN ONLY TWO DAYS.**

## LSU research works to eradicate this species.



**Formosan termites** are native to Taiwan and nearby areas and were introduced into Hawaii, California, and some southern states.

- LSU AgCenter scientists have **discovered a novel termite bait** that combines both chemical and bacterial control methods. It **lowers termite resistance to bacterial infection and is more environmentally friendly** than purely chemical methods.
- The LSU Department of Entomology conducted a study that **used DNA profiles** to detect individual termite colonies, determine the number of colonies infesting an area, and **identify the colonies producing swarming termites each year in the French Quarter**, which has historic structures dating back to the mid- to late 1700s.
- The LSU AgCenter has **modified yeast that can be fed to termites** to produce and express digestion in the termites' guts, **resulting in death**. The time required for the yeast to kill the termites is long enough to allow transfer of the yeast among colony mates; all of the termites studied died within five weeks.