



## Media Center

## FACT SHEET

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## DESERT SUBTERRANEAN TERMITES

- Desert Subterranean termites are commonly distributed throughout the lower deserts of northwestern Mexico, southern California and southern Arizona.
- Desert Subterraneans thrive in dry or even arid conditions.
- Desert Subterranean soldiers and workers are smaller than other Subterranean species, allowing them to penetrate cracks in concrete and masonry that are too narrow for foragers of other subterranean termite species to enter.
- Desert Subterraneans will build very narrow, free-hanging tubes from ceilings, shelves and overhangs six to 12 inches in length.
- Slender and straight mandibles, in contrast to the relatively thick, curved mandibles of the more common subterranean termite species, characterize Desert Subterranean soldiers.
- Desert Subterranean termites many often swarm at night during the rainy season, from July to September, usually after rainfalls.
- The Termite Institute™, online at [www.TermitelInstitute.com](http://www.TermitelInstitute.com), features an interactive map with localized information on termite prevalence by state. Simply click on any state to find out if Desert Subterranean termites are active.

[www.pestcontrolfacts.com](http://www.pestcontrolfacts.com)