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Springtime brings warmer temperatures and more abundant rainfall, and it's typically when many winged termites emerge inside homes and other structures. According to UK Extension entomologist Mike Potter, termites swarm from their colony to disburse, fall and start new colonies in the soil. Through May, you might see swarms of winged termites, called swarmers, inside your home, signaling an infestation that can cause extensive and costly damage. Since swarmers are attracted to light, you often see them or their shed wings light fixtures.

You may also see winged above. ants in the springtime. By can determine whether it's a termite or an ant. Termites ed waists between body regions. Termites have two Ants also have two pairs of air conditioning units. Adwings, but the forewings are just the soil grade next to

and floor joists. Termites tion. make these mud tunnels to Another sign of an infestation is damaged wood holwith dried bits of mud or

longer than the hindwings.

leries. resulting damage, can remain undetected in exposed wood because the outer surface usually is left intact. Many infestations result against the foundation or from direct contact between in crawl spaces, attract terstructural wood and the soil, mites and provide a food which gives termites access source. This practice also to food, moisture, shelter and provides a hidden entry try into the home and allows into your home. Make sure to the ground, find mates to have at least six inches between the ground level and wood siding, porch steps, latticework, door or window frames, posts and similar wooden elements. Contrary to popular belief, immune to infestation, because termites will enter through cut ends or cracks around windows, doors and and build tunnels over the surface to susceptible wood

examining the insect you tracted to moisture, they are more likely to enter a structure when soil next to have straight antennae; ants the foundation consistently have elbowed antennae. is moist. So, divert water Also, termites have uniform away from the foundation a professional pest control waists; ants have constrict- with properly functioning gutters, downspouts and splash blocks. Repair leakpairs of wings of equal size. ing faucets, water pipes and

the foundation so that sur- tended to provide an effec-Other signs of a termite face water drains away from tive, long-lasting chemical infestation are pencil-thin the building and adjust lawn barrier around and beneath mud "tubes" on inside and sprinklers and irrigation your home that termites outside surfaces such as systems to minimize water cannot breach. Termite baits foundation walls, piers, sills pooling near the founda-

Protect Your Home From Termites

Reduce humidity in travel between underground crawl spaces by providing colonies and your home. adequate ventilation. Don't allow shrubbery and other vegetation to grow over lowed out along the grain vents; it will inhibit crossventilation. You can reduce soil lining the feeding gal- crawl space moisture by installing four- to six-milliliter Termite feeding, and polyethylene sheeting over about 75 percent of the soil surface.

> Firewood, lumber and other wood debris stored gives termites a hidden enthem to bypass any existing termiticide soil barrier.

Cellulose-containing materials including mulch and wood chips attract termites. Use these materials sparingly, especially when you have other conditions conducive pressure-treated wood isn't to termite problems. Never allow mulch to touch wood siding, door frames or window frames. Consider using crushed stone or pea gravel instead. These materials are less attractive to termites Since termites are at- and can reduce other pests such as millipedes, pillbugs, earwings and crickets.

> The best way to prevent termite infestations is to have your home treated by firm. There are two general categories of termite treatment, liquids and baits. Liquid treatments are in- disability or national origin.



are installed in plastic stations below the ground in the yard and occasionally indoors. Foraging termites consume the bait and share it with their nest-mates, resulting in a gradual decline in termite numbers. What should you look

for when choosing a pest control firm? The firm should be licensed by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Membership in the Kentucky Pest Control Association and/or National Pest Control Association suggests the company is an established firm with access to the training and technical information necessary to correctly do the job. Consider calling at least two to three companies and asking for references. Avoid pest control firms that use "specials" or scare tactics to pressure you into immediately signing a contract.

Termiticides are extensively tested for adverse effects. Based on current research, registered termiticides present no significant hazard to humans, pets, or the environment when applied according to label directions.

For more information about termites and identifying any insect pest, contact the Estill County Extension Office at 723-4557.

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: S equals T

IOKZM IWPMWKM BTLMRG IRYIQML PG NYSOW BMZROKMB, O ITNNWIM SQYS'I Y ZTS SW SQM ZQYOIM.

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have tree seedlings to give to Estill County landowners on Thursday, April 21. Seedlings will be given on a first come limited basis, as long as the trees last Seedlings may be picked up at the Estill County Conservation District office building located at 1505 Richmond Road, Irvine, across from Bunt Gross Auto between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The species available will be: Eastern Redbud, Cypress, Washington Hawthorn, Pawpaw, Persimmon, Pecan and White Pine.



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	Answers Solution time: 25 mins.
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CTS Not?" .com (7	ANSWERS 1) Old; 2 Wrath; 3) Paul; 4) Jacob; 5) Zion; 6) Rahab