

## Service & Maintenance

By Dr. Jim Cink

*Maintaining the Advance® Termite Bait System (ATBS) to Optimize its Success.*

The effectiveness of a termite bait system depends on three key factors. First and foremost is the design of the system, its accessibility for termite interaction and how it works in harmony with termite behavior and biology. The second is the delivery of a bait's active ingredient within a matrix that is highly palatable and attractive for termite feeding and recruitment. The third factor, which is equally as important as the first two, consists of the ongoing maintenance of the bait system to retain its attractiveness so that as termites forage

and enter the station it remains a highly conducive site for termite feeding, aggregation and recruitment. Although often understated, it is the third factor, system maintenance, which can ultimately determine the success of a termite bait system over time.

Maintenance of ATBS is an ongoing process and not a single event. At each inspection interval technicians routinely assess the condition and sustainability of the components within the station and the station itself. Replacement of station components, such as the Termite Inspection Cartridge (TIC) and Termite Monitoring Base (TMB), follows two distinct paths. One is referred to as critical replacement – where components are replaced due to termite feeding activity or due to the decay in their condition. The second path is referred to as the routine main-



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tenance – when components are replaced based on their time spent in the station and to help maintain the freshness and at-

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Service and maintenance are key factors in determining the success of the ATBS and requires both critical and routine replacement of its components. These are essential in optimizing ATBS to help you and your customers' needs.

For more information on the Advance Termite Bait System, visit [www.advancetbs.com](http://www.advancetbs.com).



### Termite Inspection Cartridge

#### Replace TIC if:

- A pink mold is present
- Veins of pink run through the cartridge
- It appears to be slimy or glistening like gelatin

#### A TIC does not have to be replaced before routine replacement if it:

- Appears to be swollen or enlarged
- Has black to green-colored mold



### Termite Monitoring Base

#### Replace TMB if:

- Wood is soft and spongy
- Wood is bright orange
- A large amount of white mold is present