

## **Ongoing challenges for termite control in Asia**

by

Jason Nash  
Bayer (South East Asia) Pte Ltd, Singapore

Termite management is difficult, and being in Asia is no exception to this. Environmental conditions are favourable for year-round termite activity. There is a broad range of termite species capable of infesting buildings. Building structures preclude certain types of treatment. Most homeowners and property managers are unaware of the threat and seriousness of the damage that can be caused.

Given these challenges, it is critical to take a holistic, integrated approach to termite management in Asia. It starts by informing the general public regarding the risk that termites pose, the measures they can take to reduce the threat, and what options they have when it comes to protecting their homes. Typically, customers do not proactively think about protecting their homes from termites, they wait until they have a problem, by which time termite management is more difficult.

Regular termite inspection is probably the most important step in termite management but is typically underestimated. Adequate time and care spent with termite inspections is the most critical factor for successful termite management, and inspections should be conducted on a regular basis.

When it comes to treatment there are a variety of options available and care must be taken to choose the most appropriate one for the situation that best meets the need of the customer. Generally, reliance on a single treatment is not sufficient.

Termite management is not easy, but with the right approach, skills, and tools success rates can be maximized.