

North Carolina Certified Applicator Termite Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which of the following visual signs may indicate past termite activity?**
 - A. Freshly painted walls**
 - B. Cracks in the foundation**
 - C. Discarded wings, fecal pellets, or damaged wood**
 - D. Increased ant activity around the property**

- 2. In which situation would trenching be used for termiticide application?**
 - A. When dealing with above-ground infestations**
 - B. When the soil is too dense**
 - C. When applying around the foundation**
 - D. When protecting wooden fence posts**

- 3. Which method can help in monitoring termite activity over time?**
 - A. Visual inspections only**
 - B. Regular fumigation**
 - C. Use of monitoring devices**
 - D. Residential landscaping changes**

- 4. What type of termite is most commonly found in structural wood?**
 - A. Drywood termites**
 - B. Subterranean termites**
 - C. Formosan termites**
 - D. Dampwood termites**

- 5. What is the primary purpose of a termite inspection?**
 - A. To evaluate structural integrity**
 - B. To identify the presence of termites and assess the extent of any damage**
 - C. To estimate the property's market value**
 - D. To check for moisture levels in wood**

- 6. According to NC Structural Pest Control Committee Rules, where must restricted use pesticides NOT be stored?**
- A. 50 feet of any public water source**
 - B. 100 feet horizontally of any public water source**
 - C. 200 feet vertically of any public water source**
 - D. Near residential areas**
- 7. What is the purpose of a soil treatment in termite control?**
- A. To destroy existing termites**
 - B. To create a food source for beneficial organisms**
 - C. To put a barrier between termites in the soil and the structure**
 - D. To improve soil health**
- 8. Which factor might increase the likelihood of pest infestation in homes?**
- A. Presence of high moisture levels**
 - B. Use of organic building materials**
 - C. Regular cleaning and maintenance**
 - D. Application of non-toxic pest repellents**
- 9. Where are structural infestations by anobiid beetles most common?**
- A. Attics**
 - B. Basements**
 - C. Crawlspace**
 - D. Exteriors of buildings**
- 10. Name a common method used to treat moisture problems in homes.**
- A. Using pesticides**
 - B. Proper drainage systems**
 - C. Installing humidity sensors**
 - D. Building wooden barriers**

Answers

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1. C
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. A
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following visual signs may indicate past termite activity?

- A. Freshly painted walls**
- B. Cracks in the foundation**
- C. Discarded wings, fecal pellets, or damaged wood**
- D. Increased ant activity around the property**

The presence of discarded wings, fecal pellets, or damaged wood serves as strong indicators of past termite activity. When termites swarm, they shed their wings, which means finding these discarded wings in or around a property could suggest that there was a termite colony that previously established itself in the vicinity. Additionally, fecal pellets, which are the droppings of termites, can also point to their presence, as they often expel these as they consume wood. Damaged wood, particularly wood that shows signs of tunneling or hollowing, can directly illustrate that termites have been active in that area, as they consume wood to build their nests and feed. In contrast, freshly painted walls do not provide any relevant information regarding termite activity and can hide underlying issues. Cracks in the foundation may indicate structural problems but do not specifically signal termite presence. Increased ant activity around the property may suggest various issues and even some overlap with termite activity but is not a direct indicator of past termite activity like the other signs associated with termites specifically.

2. In which situation would trenching be used for termiticide application?

- A. When dealing with above-ground infestations**
- B. When the soil is too dense**
- C. When applying around the foundation**
- D. When protecting wooden fence posts**

Trenching is a method of termiticide application primarily used around the foundation of structures to create a chemical barrier against termite intrusion. This technique involves digging a narrow trench in the soil adjacent to the foundation and applying the termiticide directly into the trench. By doing so, it ensures that the chemical penetrates the soil effectively, protecting the structure from subterranean termites that may attempt to enter from the ground. Creating a protective barrier around the foundation is crucial, as termites typically travel through the soil to reach wooden structures. Proper placement of the termiticide in this manner provides a proactive defense, ultimately reducing the risk of infestations. In contrast, other scenarios such as dealing with above-ground infestations do not necessitate trenching, as the termites are not using the soil as a route of entry. Similarly, when soil density is too high, other application methods may be more suitable than trenching, which can be challenging. Lastly, applying termiticide to protect wooden fence posts typically involves treatments that do not require trenching, as these posts are often treated directly or by using other methods designed for localized protection.

3. Which method can help in monitoring termite activity over time?

- A. Visual inspections only
- B. Regular fumigation
- C. Use of monitoring devices**
- D. Residential landscaping changes

Utilizing monitoring devices is an effective method for observing termite activity over time. These devices are specifically designed to detect the presence of termites and provide continual assessments of their activity levels in and around structures. By placing monitoring stations within strategic locations, pest control professionals can regularly check for signs of termites, ensuring that any issues are identified and addressed promptly. This proactive approach allows for early detection, which is crucial in preventing significant damage to properties. In contrast, relying solely on visual inspections can be limited in scope; termites often operate out of sight and may not be easily detected without specialized equipment. Regular fumigation is typically a treatment method rather than a monitoring strategy, and while it can eliminate termite populations, it does not provide ongoing surveillance of potential termite activity. Lastly, changes in residential landscaping might influence termite attraction but do not serve as a targeted approach for monitoring their presence. Thus, employing monitoring devices stands out as the most effective way to keep track of termite activity over time.

4. What type of termite is most commonly found in structural wood?

- A. Drywood termites**
- B. Subterranean termites
- C. Formosan termites
- D. Dampwood termites

The most commonly found termite in structural wood is the drywood termite. These termites are distinguished by their ability to live and thrive in dry wood, which is often found in homes and buildings. Unlike subterranean termites that require contact with soil and moisture to survive, drywood termites can infest wood that is well above ground level, making them a pervasive threat to wooden structures. They can establish colonies within the wood itself, causing damage over time as they feed on the cellulose found in the wood fibers. This feeding activity can lead to significant structural damage if not addressed. Drywood termites are typically identified by their small, but noticeable, frass (excrement) which can be found around infested wood. In contrast, while subterranean termites are also a serious threat to structures and can cause extensive damage, they typically need to build tunnels to access above-ground wood, making them less likely to be found directly in structural wood compared to drywood termites. Formosan termites, a specific type of subterranean termite, have gained notoriety for their aggressive colonies but share similar behaviors with their subterranean relatives. Dampwood termites, on the other hand, are often associated with moist environments and are less likely to infest structural wood that is dry. This makes drywood

5. What is the primary purpose of a termite inspection?

- A. To evaluate structural integrity
- B. To identify the presence of termites and assess the extent of any damage**
- C. To estimate the property's market value
- D. To check for moisture levels in wood

The primary purpose of a termite inspection is to identify the presence of termites and assess the extent of any damage caused by these pests. This is crucial for effective pest management because early detection can prevent more severe damage and costly repairs in the future. By pinpointing areas where termites are active and gauging how much damage they have already inflicted, a pest management professional can develop a targeted and efficient treatment plan. A termite inspection goes beyond merely observing visible signs of termites; it involves a thorough examination of the property, including potential entry points and areas that may be conducive to termite activity. This detailed assessment is essential for providing property owners with the necessary information to make informed decisions regarding treatment options and structural repairs. While assessing structural integrity, estimating market value, and checking moisture levels are important aspects of property maintenance and management, they are not the primary focus of a termite inspection. The main goal is to deal specifically with termite identification and damage assessment to ensure the property remains protected against these destructive pests.

6. According to NC Structural Pest Control Committee Rules, where must restricted use pesticides NOT be stored?

- A. 50 feet of any public water source
- B. 100 feet horizontally of any public water source**
- C. 200 feet vertically of any public water source
- D. Near residential areas

The guideline that restricted use pesticides must not be stored within 100 feet horizontally of any public water source is based on regulations aimed at protecting water supply and environmental health. This distance is designed to reduce the risk of any accidental contamination of drinking water sources. Storing pesticides too close to a water supply could lead to runoff or leaching, which may compromise the safety and quality of the public water system. The specified distance also takes into account practical considerations for managing spills or leaks, ensuring that precautionary measures can be taken effectively. By maintaining this buffer zone, it helps safeguard aquatic ecosystems, as chemicals can have detrimental effects on water quality, fish, and other wildlife. The other options might reference various safety or health regulations, but they do not align with the specific requirement concerning the storage of restricted use pesticides in relation to public water sources as dictated by the rules established by the NC Structural Pest Control Committee.

7. What is the purpose of a soil treatment in termite control?

- A. To destroy existing termites**
- B. To create a food source for beneficial organisms**
- C. To put a barrier between termites in the soil and the structure**
- D. To improve soil health**

The purpose of a soil treatment in termite control is to create a barrier between termites in the soil and the structure. This barrier is designed to prevent termites from gaining access to a building or home, thereby protecting it from potential damage that termites can cause. The treatment typically involves the application of termiticides that can either repel termites or kill them on contact, ensuring that any termites attempting to enter the structure are thwarted by this protective layer. By establishing this barrier, homeowners and pest control professionals can significantly reduce the risk of termite infestations and the structural damage that can ensue. This proactive measure is essential in pest management strategies focused on long-term protection, particularly in areas where termite activity is common. The effectiveness of soil treatments largely depends on the thoroughness of the application and the maintenance of the protective barrier over time.

8. Which factor might increase the likelihood of pest infestation in homes?

- A. Presence of high moisture levels**
- B. Use of organic building materials**
- C. Regular cleaning and maintenance**
- D. Application of non-toxic pest repellents**

High moisture levels in a home create an environment conducive to pest infestations. Pests, particularly termites, cockroaches, and various types of fungus, thrive in damp conditions. Moisture can come from several sources, such as leaks in plumbing, inadequate drainage, or high humidity levels, all of which attract pests seeking water and suitable nesting sites. When moisture accumulates, it not only provides the necessary hydration that many pests need to survive but can also compromise the structural integrity of the house, making it more vulnerable to infestations. Therefore, managing moisture levels is essential for preventing pest problems in residential settings. The other factors presented would generally contribute to pest control and prevention rather than increasing the likelihood of infestations. For example, using organic building materials, while potentially less toxic, doesn't attract pests. Regular cleaning and maintenance effectively reduce pest hideouts and food sources, while non-toxic repellents are designed to deter pests rather than invite them in.

9. Where are structural infestations by anobiid beetles most common?

- A. Attics**
- B. Basements**
- C. Crawlspaces**
- D. Exteriors of buildings**

Structural infestations by anobiid beetles, also known as deathwatch beetles, are most commonly found in crawlspaces for several reasons. Crawlspaces often provide the ideal conditions for these pests to thrive, including humidity and shelter from direct sunlight. In many structures, crawlspaces contain wood that has been exposed to moisture, making it more susceptible to attack by these wood-boring beetles. Anobiid beetles typically infest wood that is either decayed or very dry, and crawlspaces often have wooden beams, joists, and other structural elements that can fit this description. The limited airflow and dampness frequently found in crawlspaces further contribute to the risk of infestation. While other areas like attics and basements can also be vulnerable, the unique conditions of crawlspaces make them particularly conducive to beetle infestations.

10. Name a common method used to treat moisture problems in homes.

- A. Using pesticides**
- B. Proper drainage systems**
- C. Installing humidity sensors**
- D. Building wooden barriers**

Proper drainage systems are a fundamental method used to address moisture problems in homes. When water accumulates around a property's foundation due to poor drainage, it can lead to serious issues such as mold growth, wood rot, and structural damage. Implementing effective drainage solutions, such as downspouts that direct water away from the foundation, gutters, and grading the landscape to slope away from the home, helps prevent water infiltration. By managing and controlling the water flow around a property, these systems minimize the risk of moisture-related issues, ensuring a drier and healthier environment within the home. In contrast, other approaches may address symptoms of moisture problems rather than the source. For instance, using pesticides may control pests attracted to moisture but does not resolve the underlying moisture issue itself. Installing humidity sensors can monitor moisture levels but won't actively manage or eliminate existing problems. Similarly, building wooden barriers might offer additional protection against termites, but they cannot address excess moisture in the soil or air. Therefore, focusing on proper drainage is essential for effective long-term management of moisture in homes.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://ncapplicatortermite.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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