Claims

1. A termite alert device comprising:

a switch having an actuator biased in a first actuator position and displaceable to a second actuator position by a bait structure supported by a bait support, the bait support and the switch being inter-configured and the bait structure being shaped and dimensioned for displacing the actuator to the second actuator position when being supported on the bait support; and

sensor telemetry in signal communication with the switch for transmitting an alert signal in response to displacement of the actuator towards the first actuator position being sensed thereby,

wherein at least one of weakening and destruction of the bait structure causes the actuator of the switch to displace towards the first actuator position, the alert signal for being receivable by a data receiver for registering displacement of the actuator of the switch towards the first actuator position, the alert signal being translatable into alert data at least being indicative of displacement of the actuator being detected, and

wherein the alert data comprising at least one of an identifier for uniquely identifying the sensor telemetry, a date stamp and a time stamp.

2. The termite alert device as in claim 1, further comprising:

the bait support adapted for at least one of abutting, supporting and holding movement of the bait structure prior to being weakened.

3. The termite alert device as in claim 1, the bait structure being elongated along a first axis with the first axis coinciding the bait support and the actuator when positioned therebetween to displace the actuator towards the second actuator position.

4. The termite alert device as in claim 1, the sensor telemetry comprising:

a transducer circuit for transducing displacement of the actuator of the switch into the alert data; and

a communication module for transmitting the alert signal from the transducer circuit.

5. The termite alert device as in claim 1, further comprising:

a battery module for storing electrical energy and for discharging the electrical energy to power the sensor telemetry.

6. The termite alert device as in claim 5, further comprising:

a photovoltaic device for generating electrical energy in the presence of light for charging the battery module.

7. The termite alert device as in claim 5, further comprising:

a controller module for sensing energy level of the battery module and for generating and transmitting a maintenance signal for receipt by the data receiver in response to energy level of the battery module being below a pre-determined level.

8. The termite alert device as in claim 1, the bait structure containing at least cellulosic material.

9. The termite alert device as in claim 5, further comprising:

a first housing wherein the sensor telemetry and the switch are contained; and

a plunger coupled to the first housing and configured to displace along a plunger axis defined by the first housing and to abut the actuator for following displacement thereof between the first actuator position and the second actuator position, the plunger interposing the actuator and the bait structure when the bait structure is positioned for support by the bait support.

10. The termite alert device as in claim 9, further comprising:

a user-interface (UI) module being operable for providing at least one of an audible and a visual indicator when energy level of the battery module is at least one of above and below a pre-determined level.

11. The termite alert device as in claim 9, the first housing being substantially weather-sealed.

12. The termite alert device as in claim 9, further comprising:

a second housing defining a concavity and an opening to the concavity, the bait support being defined within the concavity of the second housing with the second housing being shaped and dimensioned for receiving the bait structure when the opening of the second housing couples with the first housing for disposing the bait structure between the plunger and the bait support to thereby displace the actuator to the second actuator position.

13. The termite alert device as in claim 12, further comprising:

an adaptor structure for inter-coupling the first housing and the second housing.

14. The termite alert device as in claim 12, the second housing defining a plurality of apertures for enabling termite access to the bait structure.

15. The termite alert device as in claim 12, each of the first housing and the second housing being substantially cylindrically-shaped to enable removable nesting of the first housing with the second housing at the opening of the second housing.

16. The termite alert device as in claim 15, further comprising:

a lock mechanism for locking and impeding separation of the first housing to the second housing when inter-nested.

17. The termite alert device as in claim 12, the first housing comprising a battery holder defined in the first housing and a removal hatch to enable placement, retention and removal of batteries into the battery holder, the batteries for powering the sensor telemetry.

18. The termite alert device as in claim 1, further comprising the data receiver, the data receiver for rebroadcasting the alert signal being received thereby.

19. A termite alert method, comprising:

operating a termite alert system including a plurality of termite alert devices and a data receiver, each of the plurality of termite alert devices comprising:

a switch having an actuator biased in a first actuator position and displaceable to a second actuator position by a bait structure supported by a bait support, the bait support and the switch being inter-configured and the bait structure being shaped and dimensioned for displacing the actuator to the second actuator position when being supported on the bait support; and

sensor telemetry in signal communication with the switch for transmitting an alert signal in response to displacement of the actuator towards the first actuator position being sensed thereby,

wherein at least one of weakening and destruction of the bait structure causes the actuator of the switch to displace towards the first actuator position, the alert signal for being receivable by a data receiver for registering displacement of the actuator of the switch towards the first actuator position, the alert signal being translatable into alert data at least being indicative of displacement of the actuator being detected;

wirelessly transmitting the alert signal from a first one of the termite alert devices to a second one of the termite alert devices; and

wirelessly providing the alert data from the second one of the termite alert devices to the data receiver,

wherein the termite alert system is established by placing the first one of the termite alert devices at a first location and providing at the first one of the termite alert devices a first output indicating communication between the first one of the termite alert devices and the data receiver, and positioning the second one of the termite alert devices at a second location and providing at the second one of the termite alert devices a second output indicating direct or indirect communication between the second one of the termite alert devices and the data receiver, and

wherein the alert data comprising at least one of an identifier for uniquely identifying the sensor telemetry, a date stamp and a time stamp.