

What is claimed is:

1. A pest control device, comprising:

a bait container including an upper end portion opposite a lower end portion, the bait container defining a chamber containing a bait including a pesticide toxic to one or more species of termites, the lower end portion including a pest access arrangement positioned below at least a portion of the bait and structured to permit termite access to the bait, and the bait container including a first barrier for preventing moisture in the chamber positioned below and spaced apart from the bait; and

a housing structured for in-ground installation, the housing defining a passage to receive the bait container therein, and wherein the bait container includes a closure to selectively close an upper opening of the upper end portion with an airtight seal.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the pest access arrangement includes one or more openings below the bait to facilitate termite passage therethrough.

3. The device of claim 1, wherein the pest access arrangement includes a plug defining the first barrier and comprised of a termite palatable material, and a partition defining one or more openings sized for termite passage therethrough, the partition being positioned between the plug and the bait.

4. The device of claim 3, wherein: the plug initially closes off the one or more openings of

the partition from termites below and is further structured to allow the termites to form one or more passages through the first barrier to reach the one or more openings of the partition; and the plug is spaced apart from the partition to define a lower chamber to gather the termites passing through the one or more passages to reach the partition.

5. The device of claim 1, further comprising a termite sensor positioned in the chamber.

6. The pest control device of claim 1, wherein the first barrier is positioned in the chamber.

7. The pest control device of claim 1, wherein:

the termite bait has a lower end, and

the first barrier is positioned entirely below the lower end of the termite bait.

8. A pest control device, comprising:

a housing structured to be installed at least partially in ground, the housing defining an interior space with an access opening and one or more openings to permit subterranean passage of termites into the interior space; and

a bait container sized and shaped to be received in the interior space of the housing through the access opening, the bait container including an upper end portion opposite a lower end portion, the bait container defining a chamber containing a termite bait and including a first barrier for preventing moisture in the chamber positioned below and spaced apart from the termite bait, the upper end portion defining an upper opening into the chamber, and the bait

container including a closure to selectively access and close the upper opening with an airtight seal, wherein:

the termite bait has a lower end, and

the first barrier is positioned entirely below the lower end of the termite bait.

9. The pest control device of claim 8, wherein the lower end portion defines a bottom terminus of the bait container.

10. The device of claim 9, wherein the bait container includes a pest access arrangement defining the bottom terminus, and the pest access arrangement includes a material forming the first barrier and removable by one or more species of termites.

11. The device of claim 9, wherein the bait is offset from the bottom terminus by at least one centimeter.

12. The device of claim 9, wherein the bait is offset from the bottom terminus by at least one inch.

13. The device of claim 9, wherein: the bait container includes a tubular body defining a lower opening opposite the upper opening; the bait container includes a pest access arrangement received in the lower opening of the body; and the bait includes a pesticide toxic to termites.

14. The device of claim 13, wherein: the bottom terminus is defined by the pest access

arrangement, the pest access arrangement includes a plug defining the first barrier and a partition defining one or more openings sized for termite passage therethrough; the partition is positioned between the plug and the bait; the plug initially closes off the one or more openings of the partition from termites and is structured to allow the termites to form one or more passages through the first barrier to reach the one or more openings of the partition; and the plug is spaced apart from the partition to define another chamber intersecting the one or more openings of the partition to gather the termites passing through the one or more passages below the bait.

15. The device of claim 14, wherein: the pest access arrangement further includes a fitting; the fitting includes the partition and one or more downwardly extending side walls; the plug is engaged to the fitting and contacts the one or more side walls; the fitting is received through the lower opening of the body; and the closure includes a handle protrusion structured to manually move the bait container and comprises a cap threaded to the body to resealably close the upper opening.

16. The device of claim 9, further comprising a termite sensor positioned in the chamber.

17. The device of claim 16, wherein the termite sensor includes a circuit housing accessible through the upper opening when the closure is open and a sensing substrate downwardly extending from the circuit housing in the chamber.

18. The pest control device of claim 9, wherein the first barrier is positioned in the chamber.

19. A pest control system, comprising:

a housing structured to be installed at least partially in ground, the housing defining an interior space with an access opening and one or more openings to permit subterranean passage of termites into the interior space; and

a bait container sized and shaped to be received in the interior space of the housing through the access opening, the bait container including an upper end portion opposite a lower end portion, the bait container defining a chamber containing a termite bait and including a first barrier for preventing moisture in the chamber positioned below and spaced apart from the termite bait, wherein:

the upper end portion defines an upper opening to access the chamber and includes a bait container closure to selectively close the opening with an airtight seal; and

the housing includes a housing closure structured to selectively close the access opening into the interior space.

20. The pest control system of claim 19, wherein the bait container includes a pest access arrangement positioned below the bait, the pest access arrangement including at least one of: a material defining the first barrier and removable by the termites; and at least one passageway extending between a bottom terminus of the lower end portion and the bait.

21. The pest control system of claim 19, wherein: the bait includes a pesticide toxic to one or more species of termites.

22. The pest control system of claim 19 wherein: the lower end portion includes a pest access arrangement, the pest access arrangement includes a plug defining the first barrier and a partition defining one or more openings sized for termite passage therethrough; the partition is positioned between the plug and the bait; the plug initially closes off the one or more openings of the partition to the termites and is structured to allow the termites to form one or more passages through the first barrier to each of the one or more openings of the partition; and the plug is spaced apart from the partition to define another chamber to gather the termites passing through the one or more passages to reach the partition.

23. The pest control system of claim 22, wherein: the pest access arrangement further includes a fitting; the plug is engaged to the fitting; the fitting includes the partition; the bait container includes a body defining a lower opening; and the fitting is received through the lower opening.

24. The pest control system of claim 19, further comprising a termite sensor positioned in the chamber, the termite sensor including a circuit housing accessible through the upper opening defined by the upper end portion and a sensing substrate downwardly extending from the circuit housing in the chamber.

25. The pest control system of claim 19, wherein the first barrier is positioned in the chamber of the bait container.¹~~—— A pest control device, comprising: a pest access arrangement including:~~

~~a plug comprised of a termite palatable material removable by termites; and~~

a fitting including an upper member defining a number of openings therethrough and one or more side walls extending downward from the upper member to receive the plug therein, the plug being positioned in the fitting below the upper member in a spaced apart relationship to define a termite gathering chamber intersecting the openings, and the one or more side walls defining one or more channels bounded by a surface of the plug to route termites towards the chamber.

2. — The device of claim 1, wherein the one or more channels terminate before reaching the chamber.

3. — The device of claim 1, further comprising a bait container body defining a lower opening, the pest access arrangement being received in the lower opening, the bait container including a bait chamber containing termite bait positioned above the pest access arrangement.

4. — The device of claim 3, wherein the bait container body and the pest access arrangement cooperate to define a pocket to trap air when the device is installed at least partially below ground in a selected orientation and water level in the ground reaches the pest access arrangement.

5. — The device of claim 4, further comprising a barrier comprised of a termite removable material positioned below the bait and above the upper member of the termite fitting in the bait container body.

6. — The device of claim 5, wherein the fitting defines exterior threading and the bait container body includes a lower end portion defining interior threading engaged by the exterior threading, and the barrier is comprised of cellulose.

7. — The device of claim 6, further comprising a resealable closure engaged to an upper end portion of the bait container body.

8. — The device of claim 4, further comprising a termite sensor positioned in the chamber.

9. — The device of claim 4, wherein the termite bait includes a pesticide toxic to termites.