



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 11, 2016

Contact: Chaille Clements Munn, Communications and Marketing Specialist
Phone: (601) 359-1140
E-mail: chaille@mdac.ms.gov

Commissioner Hyde-Smith Aims to Protect Homes from Invasive Ant Species

Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Cindy Hyde-Smith announced that a quarantine exemption has been issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the expanded use of Termidor® SC Termiticide/Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 7969-210) to aid in the control of an invasive crazy ant species, *Nylanderia sp.nr. Pubens*, commonly referred to as Raspberry or Tawny Crazy Ant. This exemption will allow for treatments to be made to the exterior of manmade structures in Jackson, Hancock and Harrison Counties in Mississippi. Other counties may be added to this exemption upon approval from the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the EPA.

The registered product, Termidor® SC, which is manufactured by BASF Corporation, must only be applied by certified pest control operators (PCOs). This exemption will expire April 1, 2019.

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's Bureau of Plant Industry has authority under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to obtain an exemption from EPA for a non-labeled use of a pesticide if labeled products are not available or effective.

For additional information, contact the Bureau of Plant Industry at (662) 325-3390 or toll-free at 1-888-257-1285.

###

About the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Under the leadership of Commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith, the mission of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce is to protect and promote agricultural-related businesses within the state and to promote Mississippi's products throughout both the state and the rest of the world for the benefit of all Mississippi citizens. This is accomplished through many bureaus and departments within the agency including the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, Mississippi Farmers Market, Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau, Bureau of Plant Industry, Market Development Division and Bureau of Regulatory Services. To learn more about MDAC, visit www.mdac.ms.gov.