

TERMITES (ISOPTERA) OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, WEST INDIES^a

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Trinidad and Tobago are continental islands fringing the coast of northern South America, with land areas of about 4800 and 300 km², respectively. Together with several associated smaller islands, they form the national territory of Trinidad & Tobago.

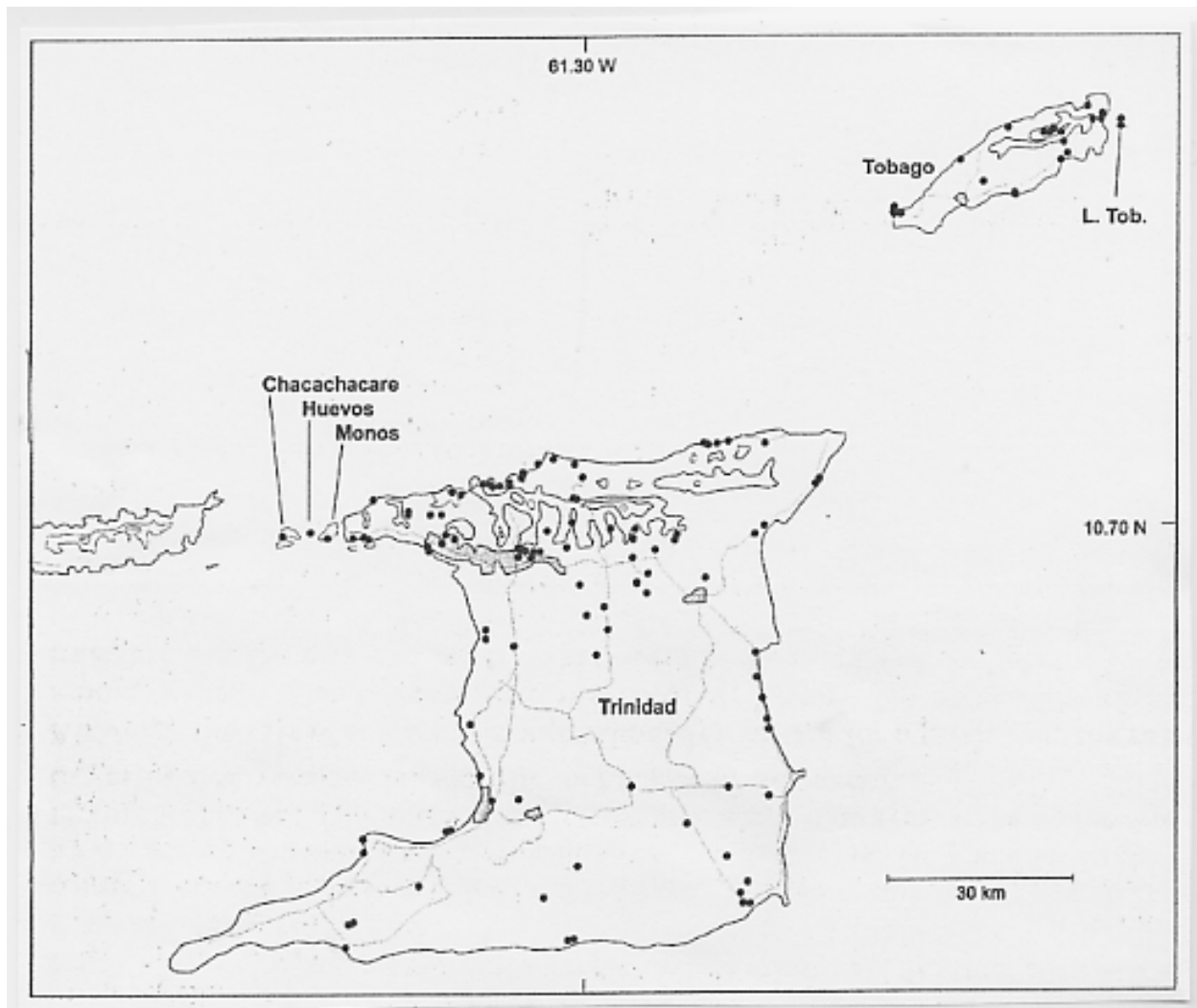
The termite fauna of Trinidad was first surveyed by Adamson (1937), based on over 1000 samples collected from many parts of the island. For his identifications, Adamson relied heavily on A.E. Emerson (University of Chicago), who had previously conducted an extensive survey of the termites of Guyana (Emerson 1925). Adamson (1940) added several species from Trinidad and listed 10 species from Tobago. J.P.E.C. Darlington contributed further additions for both Trinidad and Tobago, which were compiled in the most recently published list of termites from the West Indies (Scheffrahn et al. 1994).

Between May 1996 and September 2002, additional surveys were conducted by the authors on Trinidad, Tobago, Little Tobago, and the Bocas Islands (comprising Chacachacare, Huevos and Monos; Fig. 1). All records from the latter four islands are new. These surveys encompassed 58 collector-days and yielded over 1100 colony samples, including samples of two new species of *Cryptotermes* (Scheffrahn & Krecek 1999), three undescribed new species (one each in the genera *Microcerotermes*, *Nasutitermes* and *Neotermes*), and a number of probable new species of *Anoplotermes* and *Rugitermes* (Table 1). Assuming that all of the latter species are indeed new, the known species of all islands together now number 55.

The termite fauna of Trinidad, as expected of a continental island (cf. Darlington 1966), is primarily an extension of that of mainland South America, as listed by Constantino (1998). Tobago, which shares a shallow marine bank with Trinidad, also has a mainland fauna, albeit depauperate relative to the much larger island of Trinidad. As expected, the much smaller Bocas Islands and Little Tobago contain species subsets of their larger island or continental neighbors.

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- a. Updated version of Scheffrahn et al. (2003).
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Map of Trinidad & Tobago, showing termite collection localities. At center-left is part of the Paria Peninsula of Venezuela.



The survey embraces six islands: Chacachacare (C), Huevos (H), Monos (M), Trinidad (Tr), Tobago (To), and Little Tobago (LT). Single crosses indicate records from the literature. Double crosses indicate new records in Scheffrahn et al. (2003) and later. Reference (Ref) numbers correspond to those in the list of references. Species marked with asterisks are known or believed to be introduced. Double asterisks represent dubious records.

	----- Islands -----						Ref
	C	H	M	Tr	To	LT	
KALOTERMITIDAE							
<i>Calcaritermes nigriceps</i> (Emerson)				+	++		1
<i>Calcaritermes temnocephalus</i> (Silvestri)				+			14
<i>Comatermes perfectus</i> (Hagen)				+	++		13
<i>Cryptotermes aequicornis</i> (Scheffrahn & Krecek)				+			18
<i>Cryptotermes brevis</i> (Walker)				+	+		1
** <i>Cryptotermes domesticus</i> (Haviland)				+			3
<i>Cryptotermes dudleyi</i> (Banks)		++		+	+		2
<i>Cryptotermes havilandi</i> (Sjöstedt)				+	++	++	3
<i>Cryptotermes parvifrons</i> (Scheffrahn & Krecek)	+		+	+			18
<i>Cryptotermes rhicnocephalus</i> (Bacchus)				+	++		5
<i>Glyptotermes adamsoni</i> (Krishna & Emerson)				+	+	++	15
<i>Glyptotermes parvoculatus</i> (Krishna & Emerson)				+			15
<i>Incisitermes tabogae</i> (Snyder)	++	++	++	++			
<i>Incisitermes</i> nr. <i>rhizophorae</i> Hernández				++			
* <i>Neotermes castaneus</i> (Burmeister)				+			21
<i>Neotermes holmgreni</i> (Banks)	++			+	+	++	2
** <i>Neotermes jouteli</i> (Banks)				+	+		4
<i>Neotermes</i> n. sp.	++						
<i>Rugitermes</i> sp. A				+			1
<i>Rugitermes</i> sp. B					++		
RHINOTERMITIDAE							
<i>Coptotermes testaceus</i> (Linnaeus)			++	+	+	++	1
<i>Dolichorhinotermes longilabius</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Heterotermes convexinotatus</i> (Snyder)				++			
<i>Heterotermes tenuis</i> (Hagen)		++	++	+	+	++	1
TERMITIDAE: APICOTERMITINAE							
<i>Anoplotermes banksi</i> (Emerson)				+	++		2
<i>Anoplotermes brevipilus</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. str. sp. A			++	++	++		
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. str. sp. B				++			
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. A				++			
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. B				++	++		
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. C					++		
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. D				++			

	----- Islands -----						Ref
	C	H	M	Tr	To	LT	
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. E					++		
<i>Anoplotermes</i> sens. lat. sp. F				++	++		
<i>Ruptitermes silvestrii</i> (Emerson)				+	++	++	2, 16
TERMITIDAE: NASUTITERMITINAE							
<i>Angularitermes nasutissimus</i> (Emerson)				+			2
<i>Araujotermes parvellus</i> (Silvestri)				+			9, 10
<i>Armitermes holmgreni</i> (Snyder)				+	+		9
<i>Atlantitermes snyderi</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Convexitermes manni</i> (Emerson)				+	++		11
<i>Labiotermes labralis</i> (Holmgren)				+			1
<i>Nasutitermes acajutlae</i> (Holmgren)	++			+			6, 22
<i>Nasutitermes corniger</i> (Motschulsky) ^f	++	++	++	+	+	++	12
<i>Nasutitermes ephratae</i> (Holmgren)				+	+	++	1
<i>Nasutitermes gaigei</i> (Emerson)				+	+		17
<i>Nasutitermes guayanae</i> (Holmgren)				+	+		1
<i>Nasutitermes intermedius</i> (Banks)				+			6
* <i>Nasutitermes nigriceps</i> (Haldeman)				++			
<i>Nasutitermes</i> n. sp.				+	++		17
<i>Obtusitermes</i> n. sp.		++		+			1
<i>Subulitermes baileyi</i> (Emerson)			++	+			2
TERMITIDAE: TERMITINAE							
<i>Cavitermes tuberosus</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Crepititermes verruculosus</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Microcerotermes arboreus</i> (Emerson)				+	+	++	1
<i>Microcerotermes exiguus</i> (Hagen)				+			21
<i>Microcerotermes indistinctus</i> Mathews ^g	++	++	++	++			
<i>Neocapritermes angusticeps</i> (Emerson)				+			1
<i>Orthognathotermes nr. aduncus</i> Emerson				++			
<i>Termes fatalis</i> (Linnaeus)			++	+	++	++	17
<i>Termes hispaniolae</i> (Banks)	++	++	++	+	+	++	1
** <i>Termes panamaensis</i> (Snyder)				+			2

f. A very widespread species. The name *N. costalis* (Holmgren), commonly used for the West Indian populations, is a junior synonym of *C. corniger* (Scheffrahn et al. 2005).

g. Thanks for Reginaldo Constantino for identifying this species.

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