

Cryptotermes brevis (Isoptera: Kalotermitidae): - dealings with an illegal immigrant in New Zealand

Diane C Jones ^{*1}, Shaun Bennett ², Travis Ashcroft ², Bruce Philip ³

¹ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Christchurch

² Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Auckland

³ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Wellington

Cryptotermes brevis, the West Indian Drywood Termite, was detected in New Zealand at a residential property in 2011. Originally a native of South America it now occurs throughout the world and is considered one of the world's most destructive drywood termites. The detection of this species resulted in MAF undertaking response actions to eradicate *C. brevis* from New Zealand. This presentation will outline the potential impact of *C. brevis* establishing in New Zealand, response actions taken and the challenges faced by MAF in dealing with this incursion.

