

Theme 3: Biodiversity – Terrestrial, Aquatic

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POPULATION DENSITY OF VARIOUS CASTES IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE MOUND OF THE TERMITE *ODONTOTERMES WALLONENSIS* WASMANN (ISOPTERAN: TERMITIDAE)

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Population density (per 100 g. unit of fungus garden) of workers, soldiers, nymphs of the termite *Odontotermes - wallonensis* from different parts of the mound, namely, peripheral, fungus garden, fungus garden around the royal chamber and from royal chamber itself, and the foraging population density (per 10^2 sq. cm. area) from the foraging covered runways on the eucalyptus trees were studied. Percentage of major workers in peripheral fungus garden and foraging covered runways was higher compared to the other parts of the mound. Percentage of minor workers was more in the fungus garden around the royal chamber and in the royal chamber than other parts of the mound. High percentage of soldiers was found concentrated in the fungus garden around the royal chamber. Various castes in different parts of the mound are distributed according to their functional behavior.