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## **Building Science Issue (Crawlspace)**

Client Location Completion Corrections Cost Key Project Team

Homeowner Florida Gulf Coast Feb thru March 2006 c. \$10,000 Timothy Toburen

## **OVERVIEW**

IET was retained by the homeowner to determine the cause of extensive mold growth and beginning decay in the ventilated crawlspace of his 10 year old home.

IET performed visual inspection inside and outside, as well as thermal imaging and moisture mapping in the crawlspace.

**Results of inspection:** Landscaping deficiencies had resulted in foundation perimeter walls being

saturated with water. When this water evaporated to the interior, the relative humidity of the crawlspace went up. The situation was worsened by multiple HVAC supply line leaks into the crawlspace from a recently installed duct system. Little effort had been made to seal the duct boots to the sub-floor. Cold air leaking into the crawlspace reduced the temperature of that area, raising the relative humidity.

**Recommendations for correction:** Carefully seal all duct boot connections. Modify landscaping and site drainage to divert water well away from foundation.



