

7-2-2016

Flowers:

- Use a [Luster Leaf PH Tester](#) to check the pH on petunias, calibrachoa, hibiscus, and geraniums that are planted in pots, containers, or baskets. If the pH is near 7, use 2 tablespoons of vinegar per quart of water and water every 2 weeks with this mix. Also, feed these plants weekly with [Neptune's Harvest fish and seaweed fertilizer](#).
- Replace your dead or dying annual flowers with Vinca Minor because these plants can withstand the heat and require little water. Be sure to feed these Vinca Minors with [Garden Trust](#) after planting.
- Cut spent flower stocks of off perennials.
- Now is the last chance to prune hardy mum's to promote bushy plant growth and make flowers this fall. Feed now with [Garden Trust](#), 1-2 oz per plant, if not done fed in the previous few weeks.
- Bermuda grass in your flower beds or shrubbery can be killed with [Grass Getter](#); before applying make sure your plants are listed as safe to spray on the label.
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Vegetable Garden:

- The tomato in a can needs to be watered once or even twice a day when temperatures are 90°F or above. Be sure to feed the tomato in the can with Monterey Fish and Poop Fertilizer every 5 days, the concentration should be 2 tablespoons per gallon of water.

Lawn:

- If you did not apply *Bonide Crabgrass Control with Dimension* in the spring, then goose grass and crabgrass will begin to grow on sunny lawns. To stop this, apply [Bonide weedbeater plus crabgrass killer](#) now, before the goose and crab grass get out of control.
- In areas where poana or annual blue grass was present, but died this summer, sow [Water Saver RTF Tall Fescue now](#). Cover these seeds with *Leafgro* or sphagnum peat moss after planting. Water daily until germination. Make a half rate application of [Turf Trust](#) over the entire lawn after sowing. To prevent annual blue grass return, apply [Crabgrass preventer with dimension](#) in late August over the entire lawn, except in the shade. This fall, do not sow grass seed on this treated lawn, only apply *Turf Trust* as scheduled.
- Keep mowing your [RTF Tall Fescue](#) at 3 inches and keep the mower blades sharpened . This is the same height that it should have been mowed during the spring. Be sure to keep the mower blade sharp. There have been calls regarding brown patches in lawns. The most common cause for this is fungus. Fungus will occur because lawns were not mowed for 10-14 days and the grass had remained wet from evening rain and the high humidity from the warm temperatures . Be sure to mow at least once a week. Do not rely on lawn fungicides to treat your lawn for the brown spots because the fungicide will kill both good and bad fungi. The good fungi is needed because they prey on brown patch and dollar spot fungus. To treat, make a half application of [Turf Trust](#) now, then two applications of KickStart ten day apart

and within a few weeks the brown spots will go away. The C.D.U. and ammonium sulfate will naturally help eradicate the dollar spot and brown patch fungus. However, if your lawn was over seeded last fall and too much seed was used per square foot, then the brown patches cannot repair themselves, and these areas will need to be reseeded with less seed in the fall.

- Never water your lawn in the evening during the summer.
- Do not forget to make the monthly [Kick Start](#) application if you made a phosphate free lawn fertilizer application or if your grass was sown last fall.
- *Kick Start* naturally helps phosphate become available and makes fertilizer more efficient. Go to [Kickstart video](#) to see how kick start has improved grass root systems.

Nutsedge can be rampant in lawns. Nutsedge is a weed that looks like a grass plant. It grows three times as fast as your lawn grows. It is pale green and grows upright. In order to correct nutsedge, use [Sedgehammer](#) + . Hand weeding is not recommended because tubers that are left behind will grow into new nutsedge plants.

*When [Bonide Sedge Ender](#) is used to control nutsedge, you can not reseed the sprayed areas this fall.

Flowers:

- Grande flora petunias should be pruned after the 4th of July. Begin by removing 1/3 of the foliage. Then, feed with [Jack's Classic Petunia Feed](#).
- Wave petunias do not need to be pruned; they only need to be fed.
- Dianthus should be deadheaded and fed with [plant trust](#). This will help keep them blooming throughout the summer.
- Hollyhocks should be sprayed with [Bonide Mancozeb](#) to prevent rust from overtaking foliage later this month.
- Hanging baskets and potted plants that are outside will need to be watered daily during these hot summer days. If you are leaving town for the upcoming holiday weekend, have someone water these plants daily or move them to a shaded area before leaving. If you are going out of town for a week and have no one to water the plants, then water with [Natural Industries Vacation](#). This product will decrease the plants need for water for up to two weeks.
- If your flowers and perennials are properly fed, there is little chance they will develop disease.
- To ensure your hardy mum bloom properly in the fall, do not prune your mums after approximately July 10th.
- When flowers have finished blooming on Trumpet, Tiger, Oriental, and Asian Lilies, cut the only the flower and leave the stem intact with growing leaves. Feed lily plants with Garden Trust. Only cut the stem after the entire lily has turned brown in the fall.

Tomatoes:

Tomato plants, fed with too much ammonia / urea nitrogen, will grow large and green but with small tomatoes. These plants will also bear tomatoes later than correctly fed plants. Too much compost or manure can also cause large plants with small fruit and with slow development of tomatoes.

Japanese beetles can be controlled by spraying Bonide eight in the morning or evening. Spray as soon as beetles are observed and repeat spraying as needed.