

9/22/2017

Flowers:

- Lycoris (surprise lilies) that bloomed in July/early August, are now for sale at your favorite local gardening center.
- Plant saffron fall blooming crocus (*crocus sativus*) and waterlily colchicum now. They will bloom this fall and subsequent falls.
- Local grown fall mums and pansies can be planted now.
- House plants:
 - It is time to prepare your house plants to bring them inside. Before you bring them in make sure to spray them first with [Summit year-round spray oil for houseplants](#). While your house plants are indoors, use [Seamate](#) every time you water. Let your house plants get slightly dry between waterings.

Flower bulbs:

- An interesting fall blooming flower bulb is the winter aconite. Plant this bulb this month, and it will bloom later this fall with beautiful yellow flowers. This bulb will re-bloom every fall.
- To keep existing clumps of daffodils and newly planted bulbs strong enough to re-bloom year after year, you need to fertilize them with [Garden Trust](#) this month or when planting new bulbs. Do not put *Garden Trust* in the planting hole. Place the *Garden Trust* on top of the bed after planting, and sprinkle the *Garden Trust* in areas that you believe, bulbs have been previously planted.
- Do not rely on *Bonemeal* to feed your spring blooming Dutch flower bulbs. Cool soil temperatures do not allow organic fertilizers to be effective. Spring blooming bulbs need lots of fertilizer when rooting in the late fall and early spring to prepare for the spring bloom and subsequent years of re-blooming. *Bonemeal* is better used in spring as a supplemental fertilizer for the summer blooming flowers bulbs, like gladiolus or dahlias.
- Also check the pH with your *luster leaf Ph tester* when planting or growing flower bulbs. The average pH for spring flowering bulbs is 6.5. If the pH is too low add [Bonide Hydrated Lime](#).
- Dutch flower bulbs are now available at your local garden center. Select medium to large bulbs from bulk/loose displays. Do not select pre-packaged bags of bulbs because they are usually smaller sized bulbs. For instance, 12+up cm size tulips are sold in bulk displays; 11-12cm sized bulbs are often sold in pre-packaged packages.

Evergreens:

- Pines and Junipers are at risk for female bag worms. The bag worms will be mating and deposit hundreds of eggs inside the bags that were left behind this past spring. The baby bugs will hatch in late May to mid-June of next year. Then the bugs will begin feasting on the evergreens. To remove the bag worm's bags, to prevent this infestation, use a knife and cut the bags off of the evergreens. Then place the bags into a plastic bag and dispose of them in the trash.

Grass:

- If you notice grubs while renovating your lawn, use *Bayer Dylox* to kill the grubs. You can do this on the same day that you apply *Turf Trust* and sow grass seed. However, when you do this, make separate applications. DO NOT mix the *Turf Trust*, *Dylox*, or seed together. Separate the applications needed to be made of these three products.

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- Before sowing your grass seed in areas where Bermuda grass was killed with [Bonide Kleen-up](#), make sure the Bermuda grass is dead. If there is any green Bermuda grass, spray the [Bonide Kleen-up](#) again. If any green Bermuda grass is left, then you will be left with Bermuda grass the following summer. Wait one week after spraying the [Bonide Kleen-up](#) before sowing new grass seeds.
- When sowing grass that is replacing bermuda/wire grass, be sure to use [watersaver grass seed](#). After sowing new grass seed, cover your seed with [Leafgro](#) or [Bacto peatmoss](#) on the same day as sowing the seed, after the seeds are covered then feed the entire lawn with [Turf Trust](#).
- After sowing grass seed, make sure to keep it watered daily, but be careful not to over water. You should have frequent light waterings; you do not want to cause puddling in your newly sown grass bed.
- If all the lawn renovation work is too much for you, have a landscaper renovate your lawn. When choosing a landscaper make sure they only use [Turf Trust](#) and the recommended seed. You can buy these products for the landscaper or have the landscaper leave the empty bags as evidence that they used the correct products.
- After the new seed has germinated spray the entire lawn and seeded areas with [Kick Start](#) to ensure a healthy root system.
- Bentgrass invading tall fescue or blue grass lawns can be treated with [Tenacity](#) weed killer.
- Emerging wild garlic and onions in your lawn can be eradicated by spot spraying with Bonide Weedbeater ultra concentrate. This will not cause harm to the lawn.
- Those who are getting started late on their lawn renovations may ignore weeds for now. It is more important to have fertilizing and seeding done at this time. You can take care of the weeds later.
- After grass seed has germinated, treat the entire lawn with [Kick Start](#) to help promote a thriving root system. Additionally, [Kick Start](#) will make any fertilizer application more efficient.
- If you do not have any extra time to spend on your lawn, then you should at least feed the lawn with [Turf Trust](#). Lawns that are not routinely fed with fertilizer will decline and can be overtaken by clover and weeds.

With the industry wide shortage of grass seed, most seed companies are selling seed with a high percentage of inert matter or fancy named coatings to make up more pounds. Check seed packages white label. Companies like Barenbrug USA have enough seed, that they do not need to resort to using fillers.(water saver rtf is a Barenbrug USA brand)

Remember fall is the best time of year for seeding cool weather grasses. For warm season grasses early summer is the best time.

Lawns not treated with crabgrass preventers, that where watered 2x per week showed to have less crabgrass than lawns that where allowed to go dry. With warm temps this week make sure your seed is covered with compost and is watered.