

March 4, 2012

Trees and Shrubs:

- If your deciduous trees and shrubs were not fed with [Plant Trust Tree and Shrub Fertilizer](#) last fall, then feed them now.
- Now is the time to feed evergreen trees and shrubs, such as spruce, pine, juniper, azalea, and rhododendron. Feed them with *Plant Trust Tree and Shrub Fertilizer*.
- Check the pH of boxwood and yews. They need a higher pH, i.e. 6.2-6.7. Adjust the pH by using [Bonide Hydrated Lime](#) as needed.
- Shape and trim shrubs, and prune back roses and butterfly bushes.

Lawn:

- Apply [GreenLight Portrait Preemergent Weed Preventer](#) on sunny lawns that usually become weedy during the summer. Note that this product is a broadleaf weed preventer that can be applied to shrub beds, flower beds, and lawns. It should be applied in early spring to prevent summer broadleaf weeds.
- *Clear Choice* and *Bonide Weed Beater Ultra* are liquid lawn weed killers. They will kill lawn weeds as they grow. The optimum time to use these products to kill weeds is when the average temperature is between 60-85 °F, the lawn weeds are actively growing, and in the evening for the best absorption of the active ingredients.
- We recommend the use of an [Ortho Dial Sprayer](#) when applying [Clear Choice](#) or [Bonide Weedbeater Ultra](#).
- *Clear Choice Liquid Lawn Killer* is the most environmentally friendly liquid lawn weed killer of which I know. This product is based on micro-molecule technology, and it enters and translocates into leaves, stems, and roots faster than most products. It can also be sprayed in much lower concentrations while maintaining effectiveness.
- Never use lawn weed killers in vegetable gardens, shrub beds, or flower beds.
- Do not use *Weed and Feed* or granular lawn weed killers because they do not stick to lawn weed leaves as well as liquid weed killers.
- Always follow label instructions.
- The real *Rhizomes Tall Fescue Water Saver Seed* is sold only by Barenbrug, USA. When you shop for regenerating tall fescue be sure that the bag has the name Barenbrug on the bag. If the name, Barenbrug, is not present on the bag, then you are not buying regenerating tall fescue that can multiple quickly and fill in bald spots. Names like waterwise, watersaver, and longroots are not the same product nor have the same ability as *Water Saver RTF by Barenbrug*. Make sure that you bring home the right product, which is *RTF Tall Fescue Water Saver* with the name Barenbrug on the bag.
- Common tall fescue clump and do not make rhizomes.
- Feed your Water Saver RTF Tall Fescue with [Turf Trust](#). Never use short chained urea or combination fertilizers.

Vegetable and flower beds:

- Vegetable and flower beds can be prepared now.
- Do not use too much compost in the vegetable garden because it causes excessive green growth and poor fruit production.

- Root crops cannot be successfully grown in a vegetable garden that is too rich in compost.
- Vegetable gardens must be located in areas of full sun for the best results.

Fig Trees:

- If you are located in zones 6&7, take stem tip cutting off your brown turkey hardy fig. After rooting, plant the young fig plants in a sunny location.

Flowers:

- Plant pansies now in zones 7&8. They can be planted two weeks from now in zone 6. At the end of March or early April, they can be planted in colder regions. After planting, protect your pansies against deer by spraying them with *I Must Garden Deer Repellent*. Make sure this product is applied the same day that the pansy is planted, and repeat 7days and 10days later.
- Spray hostas the same day that they emerge from the soil with [*I Must Garden Deer Repellent*](#); repeat the application 7days and 10days later.
- Cut some forsythia, yoshino cherry, or crab apple branches and place in a vase indoors. After a few days they will bloom into a beautiful flower bouquet.

House Plants:

- Continue using [*Seamate*](#) every time you water your indoor house plants.