

May 21 , 2016

## Lawn

Yellow nutsedge is emerging in the lawn. Look for upright fast growing sedge like, pale colored grass with "V" shaped leaves. Use [Sedgehammer+](#) to eradicate it. One pouch will make 1 gallon of finished spray solution and it will cover about 1000 sqft.

- Keep mowing your [RTF Tall Fescue](#) at 3.5-4". 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 rain. 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, 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.
- Lawns that are developing a pinkish - red spots 1-2 ft across suffer from red-thread disease. To fix this feed them extra with turf trust and make two applications of [Kick Start](#) ten days apart and the lawn will out grow the disease.
- 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.

Zoysia lawns can be fed now with Turf Trust if they have turned fully green. With Turf Trust you will only need to feed Zoysia lawns once a season. Zoysia lawns should be cut low but no so low that the lawn is scalped.

Areas that received a lot of rain make another application of Turf Trust now.

- Zenith Zoysia seed can be sown now. Be sure to water the seed daily and keep the lawn mowed short. Remember also to cover the seeds in bare spots with a thin layer of leaf gro or compost.

White Grubs - A lawn fed with Turf Trust can tolerate 7-8 grubs per square foot, without being damaged. The grass roots will grow faster than the grubs can eat them. A lawn not fed or suffering from lack of water will show damage. White grubs can be killed with Bayer Dylox. Make sure that after you apply Dylox you water the lawn one inch worth of rain or apply Dylox before it rains.

Grubs , cutworm, billbugs, armyworms, and chafers can be prevented with an application on Natural Guard grub control.

## Shrubs:

- Azalea leaves that are speckled, look like they have been sprinkled with pepper and salt, may be infested with lace flies. To check for lace flies, turn over the azalea leaves, and if black specks under the leaves are present, then lace flies are likely presents. Irradiate lace flies by

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applying [Bonide Systemic Insect Control](#). Prevent lace flies by applying [Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control](#).

- After your newly planted rhododendrons are finished blooming, remove the spent flowers as soon as possible to prevent phytophthora fungus. When the new growth of your newly planted rhododendron is 4-6" tall, remove the new shoots; your rhododendron will make new growth soon thereafter. Between removing the shoots and the second new growth, the plant's energy will be directed at growing a stronger root system. With the stronger roots, your plant will be more resistant to phytophthora fungus, which kills many newly planted rhododendrons. Always use *Sphagnum Peat Moss* when planting rhododendrons and water with [Kick Start](#) when planting. Reapply the Kick Start every 2 weeks for a total of 4 applications. Then feed with [Plant Trust](#) 3-4 weeks after planting. Rhododendron Roseum Elegans and its hybrids are the most resistant rhododendron to phytophthora.

Alberta spruce that is starting to show signs of spider mite infestation should be sprayed now with Summit year-round spray oil to eradicate this pest, also feed them with plant trust now if they were not fed this spring.

Flowers:

When you plant summer flowers in areas that have a high deer population, Use [Bobbex deer repellent](#) as soon as the flowers are planted. Repeat weekly for 4 weeks then after that spray them once a month.

NOTE: Organic insecticides like spinosad are just as dangerous to bees as synthetic pesticides. Do not spray them when you see bees present.