

September 28, 2017

Insects:

- Now that it is getting colder, crickets, spiders, sow bugs, and stink bugs will be trying to get into your home. Keep them out by applying [Summit Mosquito and Gnat Barrier Spray](#) or [Bonide Eight](#) around the house. Also, fleas in the lawn can be controlled with these same products.

Perennials:

- Weeded and cleaned perennial beds will stay free of winter and spring weeds for 4-6 months if you apply Ferti-lome Gallery before you mulch this fall. We prefer that you mulch with Sweet Peat, this mulching will help prevent weeds and also, it feeds your plants as it breaks down.
- Now is the time to cut back perennial hibiscus plants.

Grass:

It is not too late for fall lawn seeding.

Southern lawns are best renovated in the early summer. (Zoysia, Bermuda and St. Augustine)

- Weeds that emerge with the grass seed you are putting down, were not from the grass seeds, but the weed seeds that were left behind in your soil from the previous season. These weed seeds will germinate at the same time as the grass seed. To kill these weeds, you will need to apply Bonide Weedbeater Ultra Concentrate or Hi Yield weed free zone this fall or next spring. *Bonide Weedbeater Ultra Concentrate* or Hi Yield weed free zone work efficiently in temperatures below 55-60 degrees, other lawn weed killers do not. DO NOT APPLY the *Bonide Weedbeater Ultra Concentrate* or Hi Yield weed free zone, until AFTER the new baby grass has begun growing and has been cut twice. Otherwise, the baby grass will be damaged if the application is applied too early.
- Many people have reported seeing white grubs while renovating their lawns. If you find more than 6-7 grubs per square feet, use [Bayer Dylox](#) to get rid of the grubs. If there are less than 6-7 grubs per square feet, then use *Turf Trust* to out grow the grub's damage.
- If you have not already done so, feed your lawn with [Turf Trust](#). Grass fed with *Turf Trust* will multiply up to 200-300% which will crowd out winter weeds. *Turf Trust* is the most complete lawn fertilizer formula available to homeowners.
- Do not use high phosphate starter fertilizer (ex.. a high middle number like 12), when sowing or growing grass seed. Young grass, only needs a small amount of phosphate to start life.
- Lawns that are not fed with a fertilizer, will become weed patches soon.
- Make sure that you keep the leaves off the lawn and newly seeded lawns.
- And newly seeded lawns should receive an application of [Kick Start](#) once it starts to emerge.
- Lawns that are neglected, but still look nice, are most likely crabgrass lawns. These lawns will die after the first frost.
- Lawns in cooler climates can be renovated by skipping applications of weed killers. Cut your lawn short. Rake out the weeds and crabgrass with a *cavex rake* or a *power*

rake. Sow your grass seed directly in the remaining grass even with the weeds and crab grass left behind. With the cooler weather, the crab grass will die on its own. The weeds can be dealt with later.

- It is important to get your grass seed sown as soon as possible. Soil temperatures fall fast in our Northern Broadcast areas. Soon, some varieties of tall fescue and bluegrass seed will not be able to germinate in the cooler temperatures. An advantage, of using Water saver R.T.F. tall fescue grass seed is, that it will more readily germinate in lower soil temperatures than other varieties of tall fescue grass seed.

Lightly water the newly seeded Water Saver RTF daily until it germinates. After germination water longer but less frequently. Apply kick start to the newly seeded areas 3-5 days after seeding. If your grass seed is not watered daily or covered with compost, your seed may not germinate until late fall or early spring or possibly not at all. Bentgrass and Nimblewill invading tall fescue or blue grass lawns can be treated with Tenacity weedkiller.

Flowering Trees:

- Crepe myrtle suffering from mildew can be treated with *Garden Fos* ([Agri-fos](#)). Repeat the treatment as needed.
- Crepe myrtles infected with aphids can be treated with Bonide Eight. After spraying the Crepe myrtle with Eight, the black sooty mold does not need to be treated, it is caused from the Aphid droppings and will go away on its own.