

2/27/2014

March/April: Visit your local **independent garden center** to pick up the supplies you need for your spring lawn treatment. The products of choice for most homeowners will be [**Turf Trust 24-2-12 with CDU, Crabgrass Preventer with Dimension**](#) and [**Weed Preventer with Gallery**](#). The weed preventers and crabgrass preventers are only needed on sunny lawns. Shade is a natural weed preventer.

Prior to applying the products mentioned above, remove debris that may have collected on the lawn over the winter. All lawns can be mowed to a height of 2" this time of the year. Be sure to bag all of the clippings because the soil temperature is too cold to facilitate a rapid decay of the clippings, and this will cause a thatch producing effect. After April 15th, you will no longer need to bag clippings.

Make an application of Kick Start to the lawn. This will help restore any hair roots that were lost due to the bitter winter cold and the Kick Start will better enable the grass plants to pick up all of the essential elements from the feeding of Turf Trust needed for a stronger lawn.

After mowing the lawn, apply the correct products for your lawn needs. **Turf Trust** should be applied at the recommended rate as written on the label. This fertilizer will deliver 3/4 1lb of nitrogen/1000 sq. ft.. The [**Dimension Crabgrass Preventer**](#) should be applied as recommended on the product's label depending on your location. **Weed Preventer with Gallery** should be applied at the rate of 4.6lbs/1000 sq. ft. **Dimension Crabgrass Preventer** and **Weed Preventer with Gallery** both require 1/2" of irrigation within 10 days of application; It is best to apply these products before rain. If **VPG Weed Preventer with Gallery** was properly applied, any returning weeds are growing from seed, but from existing roots under ground.

If you are overseeding, do NOT apply any pre-emergent controls for now, i.e. **Dimension Crabgrass Preventer** or **Weed Preventer with Gallery**. You must apply **Lebanon Turpersan 4.6G** when the forsythia flowers are dropping and make a second application 30 days later. For overseeding we recommend [**Certified Turf Sense Tall Fescue**](#) or [**Water Saver RTF Tall Fescue Grass Seed**](#).

April/May: This is the time to apply **Bayer Dylox** insecticide for grub control. **Bayer Dylox** should be used when grubs are present. The application should be made after the April 15th.

It is true that grubs are attracted mainly to sunny lawns, but homeowners that have considerable amounts of shade and have mole problems should consider an application of [*Bayer Dylox*](#). Grubs are one of the primary food sources for moles. Controlling grubs often will help control moles. Dylox should be watered in or applied before rain.

Now that the average temperature is higher than 60° F, weeds that are present in the lawn can be controlled by applying [*Gordon's Speed Zone Lawn Weed Killer*](#), or Bonide weedbeater ultra, or Monterey spurge power 2 days before or after a mowing. Before applying any of these products be sure that there is no rain in the forecast for 24 hours after the application. The best time to apply lawn weed killers is in the evening.

If you overseeded and applied *Lebanon Turpersan 4.6G*, its effects are beginning to diminish. The label recommends a second application 30 days after the first application, so likely your second application is due. After applying the second application, be sure to follow with an irrigation of 1/2" of water.

Raise mowing height to 3 1/2"

If you overseeded, use [*Kick Start*](#) in early May to help rapidly develop a deep root system. Additionally, [*Weed Preventer with Gallery*](#) can be applied in late May, 60 days after sowing. You can also use a lawn weed killer after the new grass has come up and has been mowed at least 2 times.

June: Raise mowing height to 4" to reduce summer stress on your lawn. Water only before noon to avoid disease problems. Make the next application of [*Kick Start*](#) to further strengthen the root system.

Keep an eye out for yellow nutsedge. This is quickly becoming a problem weed in many lawns. It can easily be identified by three characteristics: 1) It grows much faster than the rest of the lawn; 2) It is lime-green in color; 3) It has a triangular stem; this can be felt by twirling the stem between your index finger and thumb. Yellow nutsedge should be controlled immediately upon identification with an application of [*Sedgehammer Plus*](#) or *Monterey nutsgrass killer II*.

June/July: Control surface insects with [*Bonide Eight with Permethrin*](#) or Monterey turf and ornamental insect spray. If there is damage from the surface insects, the spring has been wet, or you are using a sprinkling system, then make a half-rate application of *Turf Trust*.

