

April 07, 2017

Lawn:

- Due to the cool temperatures, [Crabgrass preventer with Dimension](#) can be applied up to 10 days later than normal in the north east
- Lawns sown or over seeded in late fall, winter, or spring should not use Dimension they should be using [Lebanon Tupersan 4.6G](#) to prevent summer crabgrass. Weeds including wild onions can be killed in zoysia lawns with Bonide Weedbeater Ultra without damage to the zoysia grass.
- If your lawn has a history of grub damage, inspect for grubs. If more than seven grubs are present in one square foot of lawn, use [Bayer Dylox](#) to eradicate the grubs. Water in the application with 1/2 an inch of water or apply the [Bayer Dylox](#) before rain is expected. Six or less grubs per square foot will not do enough damage to harm your lawn if your lawn had been fed with [Turf Trust](#) early this spring.
- Wild violets on your lawn can be controlled by applying [Hi-Yield Turflon-Ester](#). Do not mow the lawn for three days before or three days after the applications. It takes two to three weeks to kill wild violets depending on temperature and soil moisture.

Trees:

- Eastern tent caterpillars will be hatching soon. If you see webbing in crab apple or cherry trees, you can eliminate the caterpillars by applying [Bonide Eight](#) in the evening. Target the webbed areas where caterpillars or web worms are present.
- Rusty, slimy residue or growth on Cedar or Juniper are signs of the rust disease. It can soon infect hawthorn and crabapple trees. To prevent rust disease on hawthorn and crabapple trees, use [Bonide Infuse](#) as the flower buds begin blooming and repeat the application in thirty-day intervals in early May and June. Additionally, apply [Bonide Mancozeb](#) ten & twenty days after each application of [Bonide Infuse](#). Do not use fruit from sprayed trees for food or feed purposes.
- New England winter moth caterpillars can be controlled with spinosad (Bonide Captain Jack's Dead bug brew)

Flowers:

- Be very selective when buying annual flowers. Do not impulse buy now. Select hardy annuals for pot planting and place potted plants in sunny locations. Select geraniums, wave petunias, or dusty millers for early plantings.
- Ranunculus will bloom only for a few weeks. They will turn yellow and give up on warmer days, if not kept wet.
- It may be better to spend time planting new shrubs and trees now because now is an ideal time to plant shrubs and trees. Most summer flowers can be damaged by the cool evening temperatures.
- The best rhododendron to plant on the east coast is Roseum Elegance. This flowering shrub can be planted now.
- The best wave petunia is the blue wave petunia. The purple wave petunia is prone to root rot. When buying blue petunias, make sure the tag says blue wave

petunia. You can plant blue wave petunia in the flower bed in two to three weeks. Feed ground planted blue wave petunias with *Plant Trust Flower and Bulb Fertilizer*. Blue wave petunias grown in pots during the summer should be fed with [Monterey Fish and poop fertilizer](#) every two to three weeks.

• Fruit:

Strawberries can now be planted in a vegetable garden in a sunny location. Do not expect a large harvest the first year planted. The following year's harvest will be much better.

• Bees:

- To protect bees, make insect spray applications in the late evening and do not spray trees or shrubs when blooming (including evergreens like hollies). Mow the lawn to decrease dandelions and clover flowers that would attract bees to the lawn before spraying trees in the lawn.
- Use insecticides less toxic to bees such as *B.T* or oils, like *Clear Choice Green* or *Summit Year Round Spray Oil*, when B.T and oils are adequate for your needs.
 - Avoid dust and encapsulated insecticides because they are more toxic to bees.
 - Spinosad an Organic pesticide is toxic to bees when wet.

Vegetables:

- Herbs that can be planted now in your vegetable garden are rosemary, lavender, parsley, garlic, mints, and thyme.
- Celery and arugula can also be grown now.
- It is much too early to take home peppers, tomatoes, sweet basil, and eggplants. It is better to buy these very young plants at the right planting time when the soil temperature is warmer. Be sure to buy these plants at a later date and buy them as young plants at the later time. If these plants are bought later, they will produce more fruit than those that are bought early and kept indoors. In the mid-Atlantic that will be early May. In New England and mid-West that will be late May. It will be even later if you live in higher elevations.
- A tomato plant or pepper plant planted in cold soil will not live long, will not yield many tomatoes/peppers, and is prone to disease.

Insects:

- Swarming winged insects that look like ants are not always termites. When the antenna on the winged insect is bent about 45° and the waist is pinched. Then it is likely that the insects are swarming ants. Swarming ants can be controlled by using *Bonide Eight*. When the antenna is straight and the wings are equal in length then it is likely that the insect is a termite, and you need to call a licensed exterminator.

Shrubs:

Holly's covered with black dust are infested with scale. Use Bonide Annual tree and shrub insect control to eradicate them. Also make sure to feed the Holly's with Plant Trust.