

March 16, 2017

Lawn:

- This year you should have an extra 3 weeks to apply [Crabgrass Preventer with Dimension](#) in the Mid-Atlantic states. This should be applied before Forsythia blooms in your area are spent. In Northern states this may not happen until the end of April. In far Southern states it is recommended that you use [Bonide crabgrass plus killer](#) because the crabgrass may have already started. In Atlanta Georgia and the Carolinas, you also have another week that you can still apply Dimension crabgrass preventer.
- Short, pale, grass with seed-heads is annual bluegrass (*poa annua*). It can be prevented by applying [Crabgrass Preventer with Dimension](#) in August.
- If sowing grass seed this spring, do not use Dimension crabgrass preventer, instead use Lebanon [Tupersan 4.6g crabgrass preventer](#). Do not use the tupersan on Bermuda grass lawns.
- The faster growing, pale looking, coarser grass is rye grass. This crop grass will not survive the summer, so you can ignore it.
- Do not feed zoysia grass with [Turf Trust](#) until it is completely green.
- You can kill weeds, including wild onions, in a zoysia lawn, by applying *Bonide weedbeater ultra*. Make your application in the evening and do not mow for 3 days before **or** after the application.
- Moss in the lawn can be eradicated by using [Granular Bonide Moss Maxx](#).
- To kill grubs in the lawn use Bayer Dylox and if you want to prevent white grubs in the lawn for the season you can apply [Natural Guard grub control](#).
- When the weather permits, you can do some patch up grass seed sowing, for the bare spots that are larger than 8-10 inches.
- In New England and other Northern areas, apply Turf Trust as soon as the snow has melted and the soil is firm, to minimize snow mold damage.

Shrubs:

- To prevent weeds from growing back from last year's seeds, in shrub and perennial beds, the beds should be treated with Bonide ornamental weed and grass stopper. For best results, apply this product before mulching.
- Evergreens, shrubs, and perennials not fed with a fertilizer this spring or last fall should be fed as soon as possible with [Plant Trust Tree and Shrub Fertilizer](#).
- Pruning and shaping of Evergreens can be done now. Feed the pruned plants with [Plant Trust Tree and Shrub Fertilizer](#), if not fed this spring or last fall.
- Azaleas do best with a PH of about 5.5-6. Use a Luster Leaf PH meter to test the PH. If the PH is over 6, then use [Hi-Yield Copperas Iron Sulfate](#) to acidify the soil and then, also feed the Azaleas with [Hi-Yield cotton seed meal](#).
- If you want to plant a small specimen in a wet location, plant a Weeping Bald Cypress.

Trees:

Young Japanese maples need to be sprayed with Ferti-lome copper soap at bud break, and two times afterwards, 7-10 days apart. If your Japanese maples were not fed last fall with Plant Trust, then feed them now.

Winter Damage:

Peach, Apricot, Pear, and Cherry trees in the Mid-Atlantic states, most likely will not bear much fruit, because of the weather in March.

Some June bearing strawberry plants, may also have been damaged in the Carolinas and Georgia. Feed strawberry plants with Hi-Yield cotton seed meal.

- Hollies, Nandina, and Azaleas with burnt leaves, Boxwoods showing orange, brown leaves, and Arborvitae that are out of shape or have been eaten by deer should be fed with Plant Trust.
- Roses that have winter damage should be cut to 12 inches tall, and then sprayed with Monterey Liqui-cop. At the same time, feed the roses with Garden Trust, 4 oz per plant.
- Hydrangeas need more time. We are seeing some winter damage on these plants. You should wait about a month before you remove last year's dead branches. For now, feed them with [Garden Trust](#).