

JUNE



2020

## LAWN CARE

It's time to fertilize warm-season lawns with **ferti·lome Pro-Green**. This product has quick release nitrogen to feed these grasses during their period of rapid growth. Use a second application in about 6 weeks. There is still time to plant bermuda, buffalo and zoysia. Buffalo and bermuda are usually planted by seed. Bermuda can also be planted by sprigs or plugs like zoysia.

On cool-season lawns, raise the mower cutting height to help beat the summer heat. Mow to 3 to 3.5" for fescue and to 2.5 to 3" for bluegrass.

Established cool-season lawns need about 1" of water a week taking rainfall into account. Bluegrass needs more than fescue, so while fescue may need to be watered once or twice, bluegrass will probably need an extra time. Deep watering encourages a deep root system that results in a healthier and more drought-resistant lawn.

Be on the alert for conditions which would trigger an outbreak of Brown Patch disease—high humidity and nighttime temperatures above 70°. If these conditions exist for several days—especially if your lawn has a history of disease—apply a preventative application of **ferti·lome F-Stop** fungicide.\* Also water during the early morning hours so grass blades will be dry at night. Avoid high nitrogen fertilizer if you suspect Brown Patch. The fertilizer, in effect, feeds the fungus and causes it to spread even more rapidly.

For grubs, apply **Hi-Yield Grub Free Zone III** now as a preventative, before damage is seen. Grub Free Zone should be watered in well for best results.

\*Preventative fungicide rates will be less than curative rates.

## FLOWERS

Keep hanging baskets, planters and garden flowers fertilized to maintain vigorous, healthy plants. A slow-release fertilizer, like **ferti·lome Garden Cote 6**, will feed plants all season—but remember to supplement with a water-soluble high in phosphorus (**ferti·lome Blooming & Rooting**) to keep plants blooming profusely. This same fertilizing routine will

increase vegetable yields as well.

Mum plants should be cut back to 6-8 inches tall now and again before July 4 to help them bush out and bloom in the fall.

Other tips to keep annual plants blooming all summer include deadheading the flowers and maintaining good soil moisture. "Deadheading" is removing the old flowers so the plants won't waste energy producing seeds and will produce more flowers. Water is crucial. Don't let plants dry out to the point of wilting. Check every day and maybe twice a day with containers. One way to increase the moisture holding ability of potting soil is to add **Soil Moist**. These granules store water and nutrients, then release them into the soil as it dries out. Mulch plants in the ground with **Cedar Mulch** to retain moisture.

## PEST CONTROL

**MOSQUITOES** - These pests can ruin outdoor activities and pose a health threat. In ponds or other standing water use **Mosquito Dunks** or **Mosquito Bits** in the water to take care of the larva. For area control spray **ferti·lome Broad Spectrum Insecticide** or **Bonide Mosquito Beater** to kill mosquitoes. Follow up, especially before outdoor activities, with **ferti·lome MosquitoGo Insect Granules** or **Bonide Mosquito Beater** to keep them away.

**BAGWORMS** - The larva are now active and feeding inside their bags. Spray with **Natural Guard Spinosad** now and again in two weeks.

**SPIDER MITES** - Hot weather brings these pests out. If your leaves look stippled or yellow check the back side of the leaf for webbing. To check for mites tap the leaf over a piece of white paper. The mites will leave a red streak when smeared. Use **ferti·lome Triple Action**, or **Horticultural Oil**, to control mites.

**PINE TIP MOTH** - Look for the second generation of moths in June and spray with **Natural Guard Spinosad** once a week through June or **Hi-Yield 38 Plus Turf, Termite & Ornamental Insect Control**.