

## DOGS BEWARE!

Historically, dog is man's best friend, but the relations are apt to be strained when even a best friend scratches up his master's turf and Victory Garden. Still greater repercussions result if the damage is done to a neighbor's prized possessions.

Among the readers of *LAWN CARE* are several types of people. For example, there are those who like dogs and tolerate anything they do; second, those who like dogs but realize it is hard for a nice lawn and dogs to get along amicably and, third, those who don't like dogs and the damage they do to turf still less. In recent years letters asking about dog control have increased in number by leaps and bounds.

"My grass looked beautiful," writes a distressed customer, "until several dogs began using it for a playground. Now it's a mess. What can I do?"

Even those who own prize dogs, especially females, ask what can be done to offset the "burn" resulting from dogs selecting the most conspicuous part of a lawn to pass their urine. The question is asked as to what can be used to neutralize the acid. It doesn't seem likely that anything would be effective, unless possibly someone was on the "alert" all the time to apply the antidote.

Letters on the subject range from bitter outbursts against dogs and their owners to practical methods of teaching the dogs better habits.

First are a few repellent suggestions of the non-militaristic type:

*Mansfield, Ohio*—"We had a pair of matched evergreens which were constantly being damaged by dogs who followed the mail man. I went to the dime store and bought a half-dozen mouse traps, set them without baiting



and put on the ground a couple of feet from the evergreens. The dogs smelled around the traps and sprang them. To say the dogs were scared half to death is putting it mildly. They now make a big semi-circle around our place when they go past."

*Brooklyn, New York*—"The only way to keep dogs from damaging other people's property is to have drastic laws, rigidly enforced, which compel people to keep their dogs at home where they belong."

*St. Louis, Missouri*—"I have found that a few camphor balls placed around the bush, but not too near it, discourage dogs quite effectively."

*Manlius, New York*—"You probably know of a device to shoo dogs away from shrubbery which I saw down in Virginia where a lot of evergreen shrubbery bordered the walks. My first impression was that the roots had been bound with wire for shipment and some had been left attached. Closer inspection showed that small black tempered wire stuck up at just the right angle to tickle dogs where they could not tolerate it."

*Glassboro, New Jersey*—"By planting Barberry hedge around shrubbery and lawns I have been able to prevent most of the damage heretofore done by dogs. When I find dogs using a new area, a few chopped twigs of Barberry dis-

courage the use of their paths and lawns. We have two dogs of our own and this method has been used effectively for the last ten years."

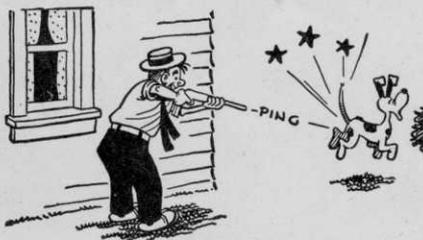
*Flushing, New York*—"I have best results with Liquid Chaperone as a dog repellent."

*Duquesne, Pennsylvania*—"I always use moth balls around new plantings and in new sections and avoid the usual destruction from dogs. These moth balls are not harmful and if renewed two or three times a season at a cost of a few cents, you will find that dogs will detour and not stop to visit your lawn and shrubbery."

Another reader suggests using strong pepper in the same way. After a case of violent sneezes the dog is apt to conclude that he is allergic to that spot.

We now pass to those methods of dispersing dogs which might come under the heading of Light Artillery:

*Syracuse, New York*—"I managed to tolerate the neighbor's dog scratching up my lawn and disfiguring the shrubbery but when he got to taking my morning paper that was the last straw. I had no desire to injure the dog but at 40 or 50 feet the little pellet from an air rifle does no permanent harm.



From my upstairs window I got to be a good shot. The dog which once had ambitions for a paper route now crosses the street when necessary to pass my house and his family and I are still on good terms."

*Baraboo, Wisconsin*—"Being accurate with a sling shot, I have used one of these effectively with roofing tacks for ammunition. Both dogs and cats were a great nuisance in our neighborhood. With this sling shot I have made our premises 'out of bounds'."



*Chicago, Illinois*—"An electrified wire in one or two places on your premises will give dogs a shock but the charge is not powerful enough to injure anyone else."

*New York, New York*—"Having had years of experience with a large electrical concern, I would caution any of your readers against the use of electric fences as a protection against dogs and cats. With a heavy rain, wet ground and an electrically charged wire or fence, the first dog who stuck his snout against the wire while his feet were planted on the valuable lawn would receive a full jolt of electric current and the chances are he would not live to tell the tale."

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