

Lawn Care

PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES YEARLY FOR LAWNTHUSIASTS

AND NOW, A WEEDLESS LAWN

ACHIEVEMENTS in chemistry and agricultural science are becoming more wondrous each day. At least one of these accomplishments will be acclaimed by those interested in beautiful lawns since it easily eliminates weeds without injuring grass.

This is not a sudden discovery. For many years, experimenters have tried one chemical after another. Some proved too poisonous to use with safety. Others killed the grass as well as the weeds. Generally only the weed top was killed, and the roots sent up new growth. This was a common experience and many investigators and users were misled by early results.

Several years ago one of our most eminent botanists suggested as a pos-

sibility the use of an entirely different type of chemical for selective weed control. Extensive investigations made in different parts of the country gave promising results where the right material was used in the proper manner. Much credit is due scientists in the United States Department of Agriculture and various state experiment stations for a valuable public contribution.

Having tried dozens of different formulations on the Scott experimental lawns, a new weed control product has been developed and will be marketed under the brand name of Scotts 4-X.

Visual evidence of what can be expected from its use is presented in these pages. It is easy to apply, is non-poisonous, and will not harm the desir-



Buckhorn and Plantain in early throes of death about ten days after application of Scotts 4-X

SCOTTS LAWN CARE



Going! Healthy dandelion just after spray of Scotts 4-X



Going! Typical distorted growth about two weeks after treatment



Gone! After three or four weeks only the grass remains. It's amazing

able grasses. Best of all, the cost of controlling weeds is very low.

Other advantages of Scotts 4-X are that it will not stain or discolor anything but weeds, there is no poison or fire hazard, nothing caustic, and nothing to harm the soil.

The selective action of a very minute amount of Scotts 4-X is its most startling feature. Large, healthy dandelions and other weeds disappear in two or three weeks while the surrounding grass remains unharmed.

It is a source of wonder why any material will destroy weeds without harm to the grass. The explanation is a difference in botanical structure. A dose that proves the undoing of plants of the dicotyledons (two-leaved seedlings) will leave monocotyledons (one-leaved seedlings) unharmed—unless the dosage comes into direct contact with the roots. Weeds, clovers, and most garden plants are dicots. Grasses, including Crabgrass, are monocots.

Method of Application

Scotts 4-X is a powder that is readily soluble in water. It is made available in convenient small packets, eliminating the necessity of weighing or measuring. Scotts 4-X is so powerful that less than 1/3 ounce is dissolved in ordinary tap water, then applied with a sprayer or sprinkling can to about 200 square feet of area.

Almost any of the weeds found in lawns except Crabgrass will succumb to Scotts 4-X. Some go out easier than others, one of the most dramatic exits being that of Dandelion. Similarly, Buckhorn, Plantain, Peppergrass, Heal-all and Yellow Trefoil are easily destroyed. The low growing vining weeds such as Chickweed, Ground Ivy



Showing reduction of clover blossoms as a result of a mid-summer spray of Scotts 4-X

and Speedwell are more difficult although they can be destroyed if the foliage is thoroughly drenched with the solution.

Other Growth Controlled

Clover is susceptible to the action of Scotts 4-X. Generally it is not killed but its growth is retarded, particularly the tendency to bloom. It is the white blossoms which constitute the main objection to Clover in lawns. A mid-summer spraying just before bloom is advocated and if repeated in early fall may serve to eliminate Clover.

Other vegetation besides lawn weeds can be destroyed with Scotts 4-X. It appears that even Poison Ivy succumbs if sprayed when in full leaf and actively growing. Ragweed can also be killed. This should prove good news to hay-fever victims. There is encouraging evidence that extremely harmful farm weeds such as Canada Thistle, Bindweed and Wild Morning Glory may be destroyed with Scotts 4-X.

One of the disappointments is that no positive riddance of Crabgrass is as yet indicated. This is one lawn pest that still requires cultural control. Early tests indi-

cate that sprayings of Scotts 4-X during the early seeding of Crabgrass in July and August may destroy the growing ability of the seeds.

Shrubs, underbrush and similar leafy vegetation can be killed with Scotts 4-X, using a more concentrated dose and possibly more than one application.

While most lawn weeds are destroyed in one application, some regrowth may develop in the case of plants having woody roots. Then, too, some weed plants may develop from seeds which are in the soil so that spot treatments once or twice a year may be needed to keep the lawn clean.



Dock is another of the many weeds eliminated with Scotts 4-X

Yet the results obtained from application of Scotts 4-X to an average lawn are most unbelievable. For example, an area which appears so badly overrun with common weeds that a complete rebuilding may seem in order can be salvaged with a single treatment of Scotts 4-X followed up with the right feeding and seeding. The cost of eliminating weeds is negligible, less than a dollar per thousand square feet.

Scotts 4-X may be used almost any time during the growing season. If the weather is cool, the action will be delayed somewhat because of a slower growth rate. Weeds are most vulnerable about the time they come into bloom. Where Crabgrass may be a serious pest by crowding in quickly when other weeds are eliminated, it will be well to postpone the Scott 4-X program until after the normal time for Crabgrass germination.

Since Scotts 4-X is such a potent eliminator of weeds and similar vegetation, it is obvious that the solution should be kept away from valuable shrubs and garden plants. Unless spraying is done during extremely high wind, ordinary precautionary measures should suffice.

New Lawn Era

The development of Scotts 4-X completes the series of products providing beautiful turf with reasonable effort. Weed control with Scotts 4-X is not an end in itself but instead is one step in the whole lawn program. It is possibly the climax that makes everything else worthwhile. In the past, weed control was a laborious, hand and knee job.

And now the Scott Way to have a fine lawn is: (1) start with weedfree



Even Poison Ivy succumbs to potent growth destroying factor in Scotts 4-X

seed of the proper variety; (2) feed regularly with Turf Builder; (3) follow the program of mowing and watering outlined in LAWN CARE; (4) apply Scotts 4-X occasionally for weed control.

In order to subject Scotts 4-X to actual lawn tests, samples were supplied for use last year in different sections of the country. Typical comments received: "One spray a month ago has killed practically all weeds." (Ohio). "It's amazing. Weeds began to turn red-brown color in three days. Within three weeks heart of plants rotted and leaves pretty well withered." (New Jersey). "Applied your weed control August 28 to area full of dandelions, buckhorn, knotweed. By September 30, lawn was free of weeds. Grass was dark green and vigorous." (Illinois). Similar reports from Minnesota, Iowa, Massachusetts and New York.

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