

# Lawn Care

PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES YEARLY FOR LAWNTHUSIASTS

## SETTING THE LAWN STAGE

**I**N THE production of any theatrical success it is important to assemble certain supporting props. To help your lawn put on a good spring show and bring it public acclaim the right props are needed, too.

Seventy-five years ago, when there were few if any good lawns, the customary working tools were a scalping lawn mower and possibly a hay rake.

There were no mowers adjustable to desired heights of cut, no efficient broom type rakes, and no way of accurately applying seed or fertilizers.

Since then lawn staging has made great strides and for two reasons: Better and more efficient tools have been developed along with improved quality in grass seed and soil nutrients.

With the help of a well designed and substantially constructed spreader, for instance, the spring lawn program can now be carried out with little effort. The two most beneficial lawn treatments, seeding and feeding, can best be done mechanically.

A lawn spreader needs to be a precision machine—not just a hopper with

a crude shutoff arrangement at the bottom. The machine needs to be built so it is easily changed to sow as little as 2 pounds of grass seed per 1000 square feet or as much as 20 pounds of grass food—quite a variation. Application must be uniform, which is possible only with good agitation and proper calibration. Fingertip control of rate of flow as well as stop and start are important.

The new lawn spreader need not take up extra room in the garage as it is light enough to hang up. You will have plenty of wall room for now you can discard weeding gadgets and eliminate weeds the modern way. (See page 3.)

There has been quite some advance in wheelbarrow type equipment, too. Some folks have found the new style two wheeled low carts, like the Handi-Cart, an excellent piece of equipment for hauling dirt, leaves, and other material. If you prefer the or-

thodox wheelbarrow, investigate the rubber tired model made of Dow-metal. It is almost feather weight, so more of a payload can be transported.



*discontinued*

### Spring Materials

**LIME**—Few lawns need lime every year. Except in the limestone country of the mid-west and some other isolated spots, lime is probably needed on most lawns every two or three years. Some lawns, especially in New England, on Long Island and other eastern spots, are so extremely acid that several limings are needed over a period of two or three seasons to partially counter-act the acidity.

Late winter or early spring is a good time to apply lime. The raw ground agricultural lime is the best form. The maximum application at one time is 50 to 75 pounds per 1000 square feet. If hydrated lime is used, reduce to 35 to 50 pounds.

In case of doubt as to the need for lime, make a trial application on 1000 square feet, observe the effect through a growing season. If beneficial, lime entire lawn.

**FEED**.—A good time to get the feeding job done is while the ground is frozen but a later application is all right. The important thing is to put on the proper nutrients to stimulate growth and color, and force deeper root penetration. Fortunately there is enough Turf Builder available for generous feeding at 10 to 20 pounds per 1000 square feet.

If feeding is delayed until warmer weather, be sure the grass is dry.

**SEED**—Frequent freezing and thawing with little snow protection has caused considerable heaving of grass plants with their consequent destruction. This will result in some thin, bare places. They should be fortified with new seed to get grass plants, rather than weeds or crabgrass, started.

As explained in **LAWN CARE** No. 90, good seed is scarce and expensive because of several successive near crop failures. In order to help stretch short supplies, **LAWN CARE** readers are urged

to be economical in their seedings and order only what they will need this season. If that is done, every lawn can be taken care of.

It is all right to sow Scotts Seed immediately after applying Turf Builder. Both jobs can be done while the ground is frozen—or even on top of a light snow if possible. As the ground thaws, the food will be carried down to the roots while the seed will be lightly buried, ready to germinate as soon as the soil warms.

### Cleaning Up Debris

If leaves have accumulated on the lawn over winter, they should be raked or swept off as soon as the surface thaws. It is all right to do this after feeding and seeding. During the raking, patches of dead crabgrass should be removed.

As soon as the frost is out of the ground, the lawn should be rolled. It is better if the seeding is completed before rolling and when the surface is dry so the roller does not pick up mud. A water ballast roller is best and only enough water should be placed in it to firm the soil. One-fourth full should be sufficient on heavy clay soils, three-fourths on light sandy soils.

In brief the spring lawn program evolves around these steps:

1. Check up on the tools needed: rake, spreader, and lawn mower with catcher.

2. Lime if it seems necessary.

3. Apply Turf Builder at 10 pounds per 1000 square feet or 20 if a new lawn is being made.

4. Set the spreader to sow your selection of seed at the desired rate—2, 4 or 6 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft.

5. Rake or sweep up leaves and other debris, either before or after seeding.

6. Roll to firm the seed and heaved plants into the ground.

7. Start mowing as soon as grass is

in active growth. Long, toppled grass will smother new seedlings.

### No Weed Worry

The pesky dandelion, usual bane of lawn lovers in the spring, is now easily banished. In fact, practically all broad leaved weeds wither away after one application of the new chemical weed control, Scotts 4-X. LAWN CARE 88 and 89 dwell upon this subject in detail and further new developments will be reported in an early issue. They promise to be most interesting.

Sirs:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I report to you on the results obtained in using 4-X Weed Control. I presume, too, that this letter is just one more of many thousands you have received testifying to its marvelous efficiency.

I have used it on the usual run of lawn weeds—dandelion, plantain, etc.—and also gave a small patch of poison ivy a “going over” and in every case it wiped out the offenders completely. Needless to say, I have praised it in glowing terms to all my friends and acquaintances.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

E. L. D.

## Weed Spraying a Boon to Health

Now it is easily possible to free public parks, recreation fields, vacant lots and undeveloped areas of poisonous weeds and nose ticklers. Many aggressive city and suburban communities have demonstrated the feasibility of eliminating such public menaces as poison ivy and ragweed. They just spray them away at little cost, with no poison or fire hazard. Where such areas have desirable grasses they are unharmed if the proper materials are used. Scotts have helped in many of these campaigns with suggestions and as a source of needed materials.

In some cases city authorities have first asked owners to spray away the rank weed growth on their own vacant lots. Where co-operation lags or where the owner requests, the city service department is authorized to spray unattended weed patches and the cost of the material—which is nominal—is added to the tax bill. In this manner the entire job may be handled at the most effective time and all citizens enjoy the advantage of the concerted effort to eliminate ragweed, the main cause for hay fever, and poison ivy, source of the painful itching from which no one is totally immune. The cost of spraying away weeds during the year is largely saved because of a lesser number of times such places need to be mowed or scythed.

It would be well for the city fathers and interested tax payers to investigate this ultra-modern method of erasing the ragweed and poison ivy menace and get civic beautification at the same time.

As always, LAWN CARE will welcome further comments from its readers on this subject.

Sirs:

Your products certainly have given our lawn a new lease on life. I am so thankful I have your “Lawn Care” to direct me in making our lawn beautiful.

Lebanon, Ill.

W. C. P.

Sirs:

Our lawn has always been more or less a poor one, but the suggestions that we have received from you have made us realize that our lawn care from now on can be much more of a pleasure. It is our intention to feed and care for our lawn in the Scott manner.

Cleveland, Ohio.

L. C. S.

It is said that green is the vital color and that grass is more vitally green than anything else in the whole wide world.

# Cumulative Index to Lawn Care

	No.		No.		No.
Acid Soils	48	Jap Beetle	44	Shepherd's Purse	50, 88
Algae	41			Silver Crabgrass	
Ants	84	Knawel	71	(Goosegrass)	70
		Knotweed	71	Skunks	44
Beetle Grub	44			Slime Mold	41
Brown Patch	41	Lawn Pennywort	75, 88	Snowmold	77
Buckhorn	82, 88	Lead Arsenate	44	Sod Webworms	41
Burlap, Mulch	51	Leaf Spot	41, 90	Soils	46
		Liming Soils	48, 87	Sorrel	59, 88
Chamomile	54			Speedwell	65, 88
Chemical Weed		Mallow	67	Spiking	46
Control	88, 89	Manures	46	Spotted Spurge	71, 88
Chickweed	53, 88	May Beetle	44	Spraying	
Chinch Bugs	80	Mildew	41	Equipment	89
Clay Soils	46	Moles	86	Spring Care	83, 87
Clover	68, 88	Moneywort	65	Sprinkling Lawns	60
Compost	46	Moss	47	Spurge	71, 88
Crabgrass	70, 91	Mouse-Ear		Summer Problems	41
Crawfish	86	Chickweed	53	Terrace Problem	43
Creeping		Mowing	54	Termites	84
Buttercup	56, 88	Mulch	46	Thyme-Leaved	
Cutworms	41	Mulching with		Speedwell	65, 88
		Burlap	51	Tile Drainage	40
Damping-off	41	Mushroom Soil	46	Toadstools	41
Dandelions	49, 88			Topdressing	46
Devil's Paint Brush	72	Nimble-Will	61	Tree Feeding	69
Digger Wasps	82	Nutgrass (Sedge)	73	Trefoil	58, 88
Dogs, Repellents	76			Turf Diseases	41
Dollarspot	41	Orange Hawkw'd	72, 88	Turfing Daisy	54
Drainage	40	Orchard Grass	45		
		Organic Matter	46	Vitamins	64
Earwig	52			Wasps	82
Excess Moisture	41	Pearlwort	54	Watergrass	
		Peat	46	(Crabgrass)	70
Fall Program	81, 90	Pennywort	75, 88	Watering Lawns	60
Feeding Lawns	64	Pepper-Grass	50	Webworms	41
Feeding Trees	69	Pigweed	74, 88	Weed Control	88, 89
Foxtail	42	Plantain	82, 88	Wild Garlic (Wild	
		Poa Annua	62	Onion)	52, 88
Goose Grass	70	Poison Ivy	57, 88	Winter Damage	77
Gophers	86	Purslane (Pusley)	74, 88	Winter Mulch	77
Grass Substitutes	54			Wiregrass	
Ground Covers	40	Quackgrass	63	(Crabgrass)	70
Ground Ivy	55			Wood Sorrel	58, 88
Grubs	44, 86	Salting Sidewalks	77	Yarrow	66, 88
		Sandwort	54	Yellow Jackets	47
Heal-All	56	Sandy Soils	46	Yellow Trefoil	58, 88
Henbit	55	Sedge	73		
Humus	46	Sewage Sludge	46	Zonate Eyespot	41
		Shade Problems	40	Zoysia Grasses	82
Ivy, Poison	57, 88	Sheep Sorrel	59, 88		

O. M. SCOTT &amp; SONS CO.



MARYSVILLE - - OHIO

EVERY PACKAGE OF SCOTTS LAWN SEED BEARS THIS TRADE-MARK AND IS SEALED FOR YOUR PROTECTION