

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

4200 W. Euclid / Rolling Meadows / Illinois 60008
In Agriculture - Horticulture - Home Economics
4-H Club Work

There are a number of home grounds problems which become apparent in June each year.

CANKERWORMS (inch worms) are feeding heavily now. Infested trees are showing skeletonizing of the leaves. Sprays containing malathion, sevin, or *Bacillus thuringiensis* will control these worms.

BRONZE BIRCH BORER control should be applied to White Birch now. Apply Cygon or De-Fend at the rate of 1 cup (of the 2 lb. per gallon material) in 25 gallons of water to thoroughly drench all branches and trunks. Apply a second treatment about June 20.

MITE infestations are usually heavy on spruce and juniper because of the hot weather in May. Spray with malathion or kelthane on a cool day.

COTTONY MAPLE SCALE is laying eggs now. The egg masses appear like popcorn on the branches and twigs. Wait three weeks (until July 4) until eggs hatch and spray with malathion or diazinon.

EUONYMOUS AND OYSTERSHELL SCALES are crawling now. Malathion or diazinon will control them while they are mobile.

PIN OAK is badly infested this year with Succulent Gall. These galls make the leaves look like they have turned into grapes. The gall is caused by a small wasp-like insect which inserts an egg into the leaf tissue as it emerges from the bud. The leaf grows the gall around the egg. There is no practical control and the galls apparently do no permanent damage.

THATCH build-up in bluegrass lawns can result in a series of related problems. Accumulation of thatch results when the woody parts of the grass plant, rhizomes, roots, and crowns, are produced faster than natural biological factors in the soil can eliminate them. One of the principal benefactors is the earthworm. Research of the University of Illinois turf-plots has demonstrated that applications of chlordane to control grubs or sod web-worms seriously reduce earthworm activity and are directly responsible for thatch accumulation. Consequently we are now recommending Diazinon rather than chlordane for applications to turfgrass for insect control.

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Illinois Landscape Contractors Association

The date of our Field Day is Wednesday, August 6, 1975 and will be held at Burr Oak Nursery, Round Lake, Illinois.

Carole Rachesky
Acting Executive Secretary

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