

# COLD WATER INSECTS

by Stanley Rachesky

Entomologist, University of Illinois

This is the time of the year when people start having many problems with what are called cold weather insects. These are insects that live indoors and are actually there all year long but because you are outside all summer you are not aware of their presence until you live in a little closer to them. All this means is that when cold weather arrives more of your time is spent indoors so more is noticed.--such as creepy crawly bugs.

If you encounter one of the following creatures check it out on this handy chart, purchase the recommended insecticide, read and understand the label and eliminate your problem. If you can't identify your bug problem, place it in an old used Rx vial and mail it to me for a positive identification so proper control can be advised.

Insects	Insecticide	Method of Application	Suggestions
Fleas Brown dog ticks	Carbaryl 5% dust Malathion 4% dust	Dust areas inside and outside the home where the pet rests.	Dust pets as needed. For cleanup of ticks indoors use 0.5% diazinon.
Cluster flies	20% dichlorvos resin strips	1 strip per 1,000 cu. ft. in attic or room.	Seal cracks around windows, eaves, and siding to prevent entry.
Drainflies	Outdoors: Malathion 0.5% Indoors: Pyrethrin 0.1% space spray or 20% dichlorvos resin strip.	Spray shrubbery, tall grass, and refuse can. Use fine mist or fog of pyrethrin or 1 resin strip per 1,000 cu. ft.	Use chemicals only after solving sanitation problems. Clean out overflow drains, drain traps, and cellar drains. Pour boiling water or rubbing alcohol into overflow drain to eliminate maggots.
Ants and Spiders	Diazinon 0.5%	Spray runways.	To prevent insect migrations into house, use E.C., diluted with water and spray completely around outside foundation wall and adjacent 4-inch strip of soil.
Cereal insects Drugstore beetle Cigarette beetle	DDT 5% Diazinon 0.5%	Spray or paint inside food cabinets and shelves.	Discard infested packages. Brush out or vacuum food cabinets and shelves. Do not use dichlorvos in pet shops or if tropical fish are present.
Roaches	Diazinon 0.5%	Spray runways and hiding places.	More complete treatment is needed for successful control of brown-banded roach. repeat treatments may be needed in 2 or 3 weeks.
Clothes moths and carpet beetles Tissue paper beetle	Diazinon 0.5%	Spray storage areas and any infested places.	Recently cleaned or washed woolens may be safely stored in insect-free chests and plastic bags. Air and brush other woolens in bright sunlight before storing, or treat lightly with diazinon.



Silverfish	Diazinon 0.5%	Spray runways.	Baits using 1 part sodium fluoride plus 9 parts pancake flour are also effective.
Crickets	Same as for ants.		
Termites	Chlordane 1% Dieldrin 0.5% Purchase E.C. and dilute with water or oil.	Soak 6-inch width of soil down to footing around and beneath building, 1 gal. per 2 cu. ft. of soil.	Remove termite mud tubes connecting wood to soil. Eliminate wood-to-soil contacts. Ventilate to keep unexcavated areas dry.
Powder-post beetles	Chlordane 2% O. DDT 5% O. Pentachlorophenol 5% O.	Spray or brush on infested wood several times.	Pentachlorophenol is a wood preservative also, but it has a strong persistent odor.
Carpenter ants	Chlordane 2% O. or 5% dust Dieldrin 0.5% O. or 1% dust	Spray or dust nest entrances.	Use foundation sprays as recommended for ants.

Purchase especially prepared ready-to-use forms of insecticides for indoor use. Do not use oil-base sprays on plants or near open flames. Do not spray or dust food, food-handling surfaces (counters, chopping boards, etc.) or cooking and eating utensils.

Note: E.C.=emulsion concentrate; W.P.=wetttable powder; O.=oil solution (usually available in pressurized spray cans).

The above mentioned insecticides can be purchased at your local garden center, hardware, pest control operator (exterminator), or farm supply. Many people prefer to employ the services of a professional exterminator rather than to become involved with the selection and application of an insecticide.

Many brochures are available on the insects listed above, free of charge, from my office. If you are having a specific problem please feel free to write to: Entomologist, 10 North LaSalle - Room 250, Chicago, Illinois 60602.

## POA ANNUA, HELP!

By: Paul Schwartz

With the title in mind, many superintendents are looking for ways of either controlling or keeping Poa Annua. Either way many times the superintendent comes out second best.

The following paragraphs, selected from the Agronomy Journal, are abstracts on factors effecting Poa annua management. Some of these findings may help you in determining your own turf management program.

(1) Data on nutritional requirements of Poa annua showed soil pH to be a significant factor in growth in loamy sand soils. Root yields from plants grown in loamy sand were almost 3 times greater at pH 6.5 than 4.5. High pH gave a significant increase in top yield on loamy sand. Individual comparisons for treatment effect showed that N, P, and K contributed most for both top and root yields in the order mentioned. Plants grown in silt loam at pH 6.5 produced significantly more seedheads than at pH 4.5. Top and root yields of plants grown in silt loam were almost identical at both pH 4.5 and 6.5.

(2) In response of turfgrass seedlings to various phosphorus sources, it was found that added P to P deficient soils gave a significant growth response in turfgrass seedling development. Seedlings grown in soils deficient in P and N developed more rapidly when fertilized with high levels of (0.8 lbs./1000 sq.

ft.) in the presence of 1.8 lbs. N/1000 sq. ft. than when maintained on lower levels of P (0.27 lbs./1000 sq. ft.)

(3) The interrelationship of herbicides and levels of phosphorus in controlling Poa annua was investigated using five herbicides and seven different levels of phosphorus. Two planting dates — immediately following herbicide application and 48 days later — were used. Trifluralin gave complete control at both planting dates while Zytron was second among herbicides tested. At both planting dates high levels of phosphorus reduced the effectiveness of calcium arsenate. At the second planting date, the addition of phosphorus gave a slight increase in the number of surviving seedlings in Betasan, Zytron, and Dacthal treatments. Surviving plants in the Zytron and Dacthal treatments were more vigorous at higher levels of phosphorus.

Whether you are trying to hold Poa annua or get rid of it, these studies show that your phosphorus levels and pH could make the difference in success of your program.

(1) Nutritional Requirements of Poa annua L., Felix V. Juska and A. A. Hanson, USDA, Beltsville, Md.

(2) Response of Turfgrass Seedlings at Various Phosphorus Sources, G. R. McVey, O. M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, O.

(3) Interrelationship of Phosphorus and Preemergence Herbicides in Poa annua (L.) Control., Felix V. Juska and A. A. Hanson, USDA, Beltsville, Md.

— Taken from the **Northern Ohio Turf Grass News**



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