LAWN MOWER STATIONARY BLADES



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toms of different types of wilt? (Ky.)

A. Early morning watering helps grass to dry more quickly for pleasurable play and for machinery operation. Disease reduction still is the big reason. There is no standard for "swishing" (syringing, showering-off). This largely is a case of judgment and constant watching. The cold water cools the grass, brings dissolved oxygen to the suffocating grass. Hot water contains very little oxygen.

The differences between "wet wilt" and "dry wilt" are subtle and difficult to describe. Dry wilt occurs on hard soil that lacks moisture. Wet wilt might look the same (footprinting) but the soil is wet, may even be "squishy." In the former it is the water that corrects the wilt; in the latter it is the oxygen in the water that once more permits the wilting grass to absorb some of the excess water.

Q. I believe it is generally agreed that it is a poor practice to feed bent greens with nitrogen in warm humid weather, or when we know such weather is approaching. If this is so, then wouldn't a spring application of one of the urea-formaldehyde fertilizers (such as Uramite) in sufficient quantity to last all season be injurious to the extent that you would lose control of nitrogen feeding in hot weather? I realize this form of nitrogen is released gradually all season, but in warm, humid weather there would be no way to stop nitrogen release, thus increasing the chance of more rapid spread of disease. (Wis.)

A. It does not appear that the U-F fertilizers (Uramite, for example) release nitrogen "explosively" when hot weather comes as we have observed at times with natural organics under conditions of high heat and humidity. Release rate appears to be nearly constant and is not dependent upon temperature and humidity. Research data do not indicate any loss of control of nitrogen or any additional disease with the season's supply of N being applied at one time in the spring. It helps, naturally, to have a good sturdy strain of grass to start with. To date, it appears that we can say with assurance that the U-F fertilizers tested thus far are equal to the best organics in performance and N release is more constant.

Q. With winds of 35-45 m.p.h. I have trouble keeping sand in my traps in spite of steeply (Continued on page 82)

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