

and November 15. In the Northwest, spring application should be made during the month of April; and the fall application can be made between October 15 and November 30.

The chemical should be sprayed on established turf. The grass should be green at the time since brown grass will not absorb the chemical. It should also be 2 to 4 inches in height.

Naugatuck Chemical recommends that 1½ gallons of MH-30, mixed with 50 gallons of water, be used per acre of grass under standard conditions. This dosage will markedly reduce the number of mowings required per season, especially if it is applied at the time suggested. For difficult-to-mow areas, where a further cut-back — or the complete elimination — of mowings is desired, it is suggested that 2 gallons of the chemical be applied per acre along with 50 gallons of water. It is possible to mix some weed killers, such as 2,4-D, with MH-30 in order to do the double job of weeding and growth retarding at the same time.

The growth-retarding effect of a spring application will be visible in about a week's time, at which point the chemical will be well distributed within the grass plants. Its retarding effect generally lasts until summer dormancy sets in.

When grass is sprayed with MH-30 in the fall, the chemical is retained in the plant over the winter dormancy period, and then takes effect in the spring as regrowth begins. Fall-sprayed grass generally greens up about one or two weeks later than unsprayed grass.

A rain within 12 hours after spraying will reduce the chemical's effectiveness since the water-soluble chemical is still being absorbed into the grass during this period. After 12 hours, when the chemical has been absorbed, rain has no effect on its performance.

How MH-30 Works

When sprayed on grass the chemical is absorbed through the grass plant's leaves, or blades. It then moves through its vein systems to the point where growth is taking place. Here, it blocks cell division — the growing process in which one plant cell splits in two,

and the two in turn split into two more. By blocking this multiplication-through-division process the chemical halts upward growth. Frequently, then, the plant's growth impetus shifts to secondary growth points and side growth is promoted. As a consequence, MH-30 sprayed grass is frequently thicker and greener than unsprayed grass.

More than a decade of testing has shown MH-30 to be a safe chemical. It has no effect on humans, animals or birds, and will not harm grass when applied according to recommendations. It is also a nonvolatile chemical, and consequently does not create drift problems.

A commercial chemical since 1957, MH-30 is also used to prevent the growth of sucker shoots on tobacco plants, prevent runner growth of strawberry plants, increase the frost resistance of citrus trees and prevent potatoes and onions from sprouting in storage. It has been approved for use on food products by the Food and Drug Administration.

It is not, however, presently suggested as the answer to the lawn mowing problems of homeowners. For even results, the chemical must be applied at a carefully controlled rate and at a near-constant speed. Naugatuck Chemical suggests, for example, that spray equipment to be used for MH-30 be carefully calibrated before an actual spraying job. Since such equipment is not available to the homeowner, the chemical is not recommended for full lawns.

However, for roadside grass and other large grass areas — such as cemeteries, plant areas, tank farms, airports, etc. — MH-30 now represents a proven method for reducing grass-cutting costs.

Miller Opens Peoria Branch

A new branch office of the Miller Chemical Company, Omaha, Nebraska firm which numbers lawn and garden chemicals among its products, has been opened in Peoria, Ill.

W. D. Brooks of Peoria is general manager of the new branch. He was formerly associated with American Cyanamid Company, and other chemical firms.

Chinch Bugs Moving to Midwest; Here's Way to Identify Them

Chinch bugs, though primarily a southern menace, are visiting Midwestern lawns in untold numbers. The insects suck the life from grass blades, leaving faded, strawy patches.

It is difficult to distinguish chinch bug damage from a fungus disease, such as dollar spot, unless the inspector gets down on his hands and knees for a close examination at the base of damaged blades. The bugs are generally found along the outer edges of discolored patches.

Complaints of chinch bugs often come in combination with leaf hopper and clover mite damage. One very accurate method of locating and identifying the source of trouble is to remove the top and bottom of an ordinary soup can and press the can partly into the turf at the margin of the patch. Fill with water until the bugs float to the surface. Make the test in several places if necessary.

Chinch bugs are little more than a speck, flat, and less than 1/6th of an inch long, even in the adult stage. Tiny nymphs are red, then turn brown with a white dot or band and, when mature, have distinct black and white markings.

The hairy chinch bug has short wings, while the ordinary variety has wings extending the full length of the abdomen.

Chinch bugs ignore plants outside the grass family. Their favorite foods are corn, grain crops, and turfgrass.

Brown patches caused by chinch bugs often have a reddish cast in the center, turning yellowish along the outer portions.

Nymphs and adults begin sucking during warm June days, primarily in sunny spots. Nymphs take about 30 days to mature. During the 20 to 30 day adult period, eggs are laid for a second brood that appears about August and lives and feeds until cold weather.

Coming in October:
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