

## Meeting Dates



**Ohio Turfgrass Conference.** Ohio Turfgrass Association, Sheraton Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 9-10.

**Northeastern Weed Control Conference, Annual.** Hotel Commodore, New York City, N.Y., Jan. 8-10.

**Helicopter Association, Annual Meeting.** Diplomat Hotel, Hollywood, Fla., Jan. 8-11.

**New York State Arborists Association, Annual Meeting.** Grossinger's, Grossinger, N. Y., Jan. 19-22.

**40th International Turfgrass Conference and Show, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Fountainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Fla., Jan. 19-24.**

**Southern Weed Conference, Annual Meeting.** Statler Hotel, Dallas, Tex., Jan. 21-23.

**American Sod Producers Association Annual Meeting.** Fountainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Fla., Jan. 22.

**Associated Landscape Contractors of America, Annual Meeting.** Half Moon Inn, Shelter Island, San Diego Bay, Calif., Jan. 22-25.

**National Arborist Association, Annual Convention.** Sheraton Hotel, Fort Lauderdale Beach, Fla., Feb. 8-13.

**Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting.** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 10-14.

**Lawn and Utility Turf Growers Course.** Rutgers University, College of Agriculture and Environmental Science Campus, New Brunswick, N.J., Feb. 17-19.

**Golf and Fine Turf Growers Course.** Rutgers University, College of Agricultural and Environmental Science Campus, New Brunswick, N.J., Feb. 19-21.

**Southern Turfgrass Association, Annual Conference.** Sheraton-Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tenn., Mar. 3-4.

**Annual Fine Turf Conference.** University of Massachusetts, High Point Motor Inn, Chicopee, Mass., Mar. 5-7.

**Michigan Turfgrass Conference, 39th Annual.** Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., March 12-13.

## Ohio Scientist Discusses Home Lawn Care Fallacies

Fallacies concerning maintenance of home lawns were recently brought to light by Dr. R. R. Davis, associate chairman of the Department of Agronomy at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster.

Contrary to common belief, Davis said, close mowing in spring does not make grass spread. In fact, he revealed, close mowing reduces grass vigor and thereby decreases its ability to spread. Best mowing height, according to Research Center trials, is 2 inches for the average lawn, he said.

Another fallacy Davis attacked was the idea that grass should be left long for best winter survival. Long grass, he cautioned, actually increases thatch and may even increase disease problems. Center research indicates it's best to mow until growth stops, Davis said.

On lawn fertilization, Davis pointed out that slightly acid soil (pH 6 to 7) produces the best bluegrass. Both organic and inorganic fertilizers, used properly, foster improved growth, he said. Best time to fertilize is in the fall, although fertilizer should be applied whenever grass needs it, even during the summer.

Davis said that lawns should be watered as needed, anytime during the day that is convenient.

Fall is the best time to get rid of dandelions, according to Davis. Fall herbicide applications kill both old and new dandelions, done so at a time when desirable shrubs and trees are less susceptible to damage from herbicide drift. Spaces left by dandelions killed in the fall fill in quickly with grass the following spring, Davis said.

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