

# VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

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**Q:** What grass species have trouble growing in heavily shaded areas?

**A:** None of the common turfgrasses are adapted to heavily shaded areas although some will tolerate more shade than others. In the northern states, the most common turfgrass with poor shade tolerance is Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.), although a few improved cultivars will tolerate up to 65% shade. In the South, Bermudagrass (*Cynodon* L. C. Rich) displays the least shade tolerance. Conversely, the most common turfgrass species with good shade tolerance in the North is red fescue (*Festuca rubra* L.), and, in the South, is St. Augustine [*Stenotaphrum secundatum* (Walt.) Kuntze].

**Q:** Is there any product other than Endothall for control of veronica?

**A:** If you are concerned with the control of veronica in an established lawn, both Silvex and Trimec (2,4-D + MCPP + Dicamba) will give good control when the weeds are actively growing. Check the labels to see if either of these herbicides is recommended for your particular turfgrass.

**Q:** I seem to have some difficulty obtaining good control with my webworm spray. By good, I mean lasting control. I have used Diazinon and Sevin, but in some cases, when I check a couple or three weeks later, new webs have appeared. Is there any other material that offers longer residual?

**A:** There is no insecticide labeled for webworm control that gives longer residual than Sevin or Diazinon. However, you should not be observing new webs within three weeks of an application of either chemical. Perhaps you are applying too early, before all of the eggs have hatched. Also, be sure you have sufficient pressure to penetrate the webs with your spray.

**Q:** When is the latest date to apply a crabgrass control?

**A:** Crabgrass control is best achieved by pre-emergent herbicides that must be applied before the seeds germinate. The latest date is dictated by your climatic region and local weather conditions. Crabgrass seeds germinate when the temperature of the top one inch of soil stabilizes above 55° F. (about two weeks after soil first reaches 55° F.), which may vary as much as six weeks from one year to the next.

The spring flowering shrub, forsythia, is a fairly good indication of conditions for crabgrass germination. Your pregermination herbicide should be applied by the time forsythia bloom drop occurs.

One application should be sufficient unless you are in an area that also is plagued with silver crabgrass (goosegrass).

**Q:** How much value to lawns and shrubbery are the expensive foliar nutrients? Is the cost worth any advantage?

**A:** I would not pay a premium price for foliar fertilizers unless the plant was not responding to soil-applied fertilizers. Any soluble fertilizer can be used for foliar fertilization and the runoff can be absorbed by the root system. The real benefit of foliar fertilization is in providing nutrients to the plant when the roots have been injured or when soil conditions — primarily improper pH — prevents the availability and absorption of soil nutrients. This is particularly a problem with micro-nutrients such as iron, manganese and zinc in alkaline soils.

**Q:** Please recommend trees that can be grown in extremely wet soils.

**A:** Following is a list of trees which thrive in very wet soil:

## Deciduous

<i>Acer dasycarpum</i>	Silver Maple
<i>negundo</i>	Box Elder
<i>rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	European Alder
<i>Betula lutea</i>	Yellow Birch
<i>nigra</i>	River Birch
<i>populifolia</i>	Gray Birch
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam
<i>Carya ovata</i>	Shagbark Hickory
<i>Fraxinus caroliniana</i>	Water Ash
<i>lanceolata</i>	Green Ash
<i>Gleditsia aquatica</i>	Waterlocust
<i>Larix americana</i>	American Larch
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum
<i>Magnolia glauca</i>	Sweet Bay Magnolia
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Sourgum, Tupelo
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	Buttonwood
<i>Populus balsamifera</i>	Carolina Cottonwood
<i>grandidentata</i>	Largetooth Aspen
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak
<i>palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>phellos</i>	Willow Oak
<i>Salix alba</i>	White Willow
<i>babylonica</i>	Weeping Willow
<i>fragilis</i>	Brittle Willow
<i>nigra</i>	Black Willow
<i>pentandra</i>	Laurel Willow
<i>vitellina</i>	Golden Willow
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress
<i>Tilia americana</i> [glabra]	American Linden

## Evergreen

<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	White Cedar
<i>Picea mariana</i>	Black Spruce
<i>rubra</i>	Red Spruce
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	American Arborvitae
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	Hemlock