

WT&T

PROSCAPE

Q: Roundup is a systemic herbicide that is translocated to the root system after leaf application and absorption.

- 1) Is it absorbed by any green tissue?
- 2) What, exactly, happens in the roots?
- 3) How persistent is it in a plant exposed to it but not killed?

A: 1) Roundup is absorbed by any green tissue although green bark would absorb less material than green leaves. The Roundup label states DO NOT SPRAY GREEN BARK.

2) Roundup (glyphosate) inhibits aromatic amino acid synthesis.

3) Roundup can overwinter in plant tissues and cause injury symptoms to appear the following year, depending upon the applied concentration and target species.

Q: Is there any safe method to root prune maple trees that are continually upheaving sidewalks?

A: Maples are notorious for the upheaval of sidewalks because of surface rooting. Roots can be selectively pruned without causing noticeable injury if only a few roots are removed per season.

You should use careful judgement when considering the removal of large roots. Crown thinning will help re-establish the equilibrium between the roots and shoots and minimize injury. Proper fertilization and watering are also beneficial.

To help prevent a recurrence of the problem, deeper rooting can be encouraged by improving water drainage and air penetration into the soil.

Q: What is the best method of controlling bermudagrass while trying to establish zoysiagrass?

A: The best method is to treat the area with methyl bromide prior to planting zoysiagrass, but because of the hazards involved, I would not recommend it. The most practical control is an application of Roundup prior to planting zoysiagrass and periodic spot application as needed until the zoysiagrass completely fills in the area. Roundup is non-selective and will kill both bermudagrass and zoysiagrass in the applied area. I am not aware of any material that will selectively control bermudagrass without also harming the zoysiagrass.

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