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Write 103 on reader service card



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

By Roger Funk, Ph.D., Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio

Q: What is the best chemical to control cottony maple scale on silver maples?

A: We use primarily a combination of malathion and and sevin during the crawler stage (July in the Northeast). Field studies have shown similar results with Diazinon.

Q: I read where dorman oil will remove the blue color from Colorado blue spruce. Is the loss of color permanent?

A: It has been our experience that the blue color, which is a waxy exudate, normally returns within a month.

Q: How do you treat the soil to prevent root graft transmission of Dutch elm disease?

A: According to the Vapam label from Stauffer Chemical Co., dilute one part Vapam to three parts water. Drill holes approximately 3/4 to 1 inch in diameter, 15 inches deep, and 6 to 9 inches apart. Fill each hole with diluted Vapam to within 2 inches of the soil surface.

Make a line of treatment sufficiently long to kill all roots of the adjacent trees that are likely to be root-grafted. Apply the chemical slowly and carefully to avoid overflowing the drilled holes and tamp each hole until closed. Allow at least two weeks after treatment before removing the diseased trees.

Q: I recently came across the term LC50 and thought it was a misprint for LD50, but I have since seen it again in print. I have not been able to find anyone who knows what it means (if anything). Can you help?

A: LC50 is the median lethal concentration rather than the median lethal dose (LD50). It is often used to measure the toxicity of a chemical present in air or water.

Q: Do fungicides protect turfgrass growth that occurs after the application?

A: Contact fungicides do not. Systemic fungicides are absorbed by the roots and translocated throughout the plant system. Newly emerging leaves may contain sufficient concentrations for protection against certain infectious organisms.

Q: How long do you have to wait to reseed a lawn after applying broadleaf herbicides?

A: In general, a waiting period of three to six weeks is recommended before reseeding since these herbicides can cause seedling injury.

Recent research has shown that when using a slicer-seeder herbicides could be applied at or prior to seeding with no significant reduction in turf stand.