

GET TOUGH

on
Cut Worms
Chinch Bugs
Sod Webworms
Billbugs, Grubs and
Many Other Insects

Usually chemical treatment is not necessary for clover mite control because predators keep the populations under good control. If the damage is extensive, apply chemical treatments at the first sign of infestation. Chemicals such as diazinon, Spectracide, Kelthane or Dursban can be used to minimize this pest. Read the label and follow the directions for more details.

Q: Some of our clients' properties are heavily infested with moss. The properties are full of trees around the outer border with the house usually located in the center of a donut-shaped lawn. The lawns were seeded about 2-3 years ago and they are very thin. I would appreciate your recommendations to manage this moss-spreading problem. (New York)

A: Before attempting to control the moss, study the properties and identify the reasons why moss is growing and establishing in these properties. A moss problem is usually the result of improper drainage, insufficient light or poor air circulation. Also, moss can tolerate alkaline or acid soils better than turfgrasses.

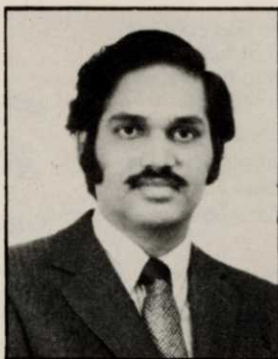
Moss can invade and establish well in those locations where conditions are unfavorable for turfgrass. Moss plants do not have roots, instead they have rhizoids.

The following guidelines may improve the condition of the turf. After identifying the possible reasons why moss is growing in lawns, try to eliminate those problems first. If heavy shade, reduce the shade by thinning tree branches. Improve drainage and air circulation to discourage moss growth. Make a soil test to determine soil pH and fertility and adjust accordingly.

After following these cultural practices, if desired apply chemicals such as powdered copper sulfate (2 lbs./acre or 3 level tablespoons/1000 sq. ft.). Be careful while using this product—use gloves because it stains clothes, skin, etc.

Amonium sulfate (10 lbs./1000 sq. ft. when moss is actively growing) can also be used. Do not water the area after treatment.

After the moss is gone, the thinned out areas in the lawns should be overseeded with turf cultivars adapted to the locations.



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Questions should be mailed to Problem Solver, Weeds Trees & Turf, 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44130. Please allow 2-3 months for an answer to appear in the magazine.

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