

# Weed and disease control for home lawns



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it's done a super job. ■ ■

—Mike Lancaster  
Fairfax, Va.

Research has shown, time and time again, that most homeowners prefer a "green, weed-free lawn." At least homeowners who care enough about their yards to enlist the help of a professional lawn care company.

Not only do homeowners want to take pride in a well-kept property, a well-maintained lawn can increase a home's value significantly.

So the professional lawn care company's major priorities are assuring a quick green-up with fertilizers and controlling weeds with pre-emergence herbicides.

Why pre-emergence herbicides? Because they work early, controlling unwanted weeds that detract from the yard's beauty before spring germination.

Minimizing callbacks is critical to the success of a profitable lawn care company. Products which provide consistent control throughout the season help reduce these callbacks. That's one of the reasons why Team is an extremely popular choice of lawn care operators in



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pretty well. ■ ■

—Jim Johnson (left) and Bill Rowland  
Topeka, Kan.

the part of the country where home lawns are composed of cool-season turfgrasses.

Few products on the market provide the 16- to 20-week control of crabgrass and goosegrass like Team, and it's gentle on cool-season turf like bluegrass and ryegrass. Team has provided consistent control across this cool-season turfgrass area.

A combination of benefin and trifluralin, Team is available on an easy-to-spread clay granular or through selected formulations as a sprayable or on a fertilizer granular.

Lawn Doctor of Fairfax, Va., is one of the largest lawn care companies in the Washington, D.C., area with 4,000 customers. Co-managers Bob DeKraft and Mike Lancaster ordered 60 tons of Team this spring. The results have been startling.

"I thought we'd see crabgrass really bad at the end of July. But we're not seeing it at all this year," says DeKraft. "We applied it with fertilizer in March.

Our new customers got it in late April."

Adds Lancaster: "I'm quite impressed with it. From what I've seen, it's done a super job."

Bill Rowland and Jim Johnson of Leprechaun Lawns in Topeka, Kan., used Team for the first time this spring. They used it in combination with fertilizer in two applications: one in March or April, and one in May or June.

With Team, Rowland looks for control of crabgrass and foxtail. Thus far the results have been positive.

"It looks like it's working pretty well," says Johnson. "The areas I've seen where we've used the product look good." Balan and Balan/fertilizer combinations are also available to lawn care operators. In the cool-season tier of states where control of annual grasses is needed for 10 to 12 weeks, Balan provides dependable control at a very affordable price.

As the lawn care market develops, lawn care operators should consider going a step farther, giving their



■ ■ It's been 90 to 95 percent effective. ■ ■

—Vince Flecker  
Indianapolis, Ind.



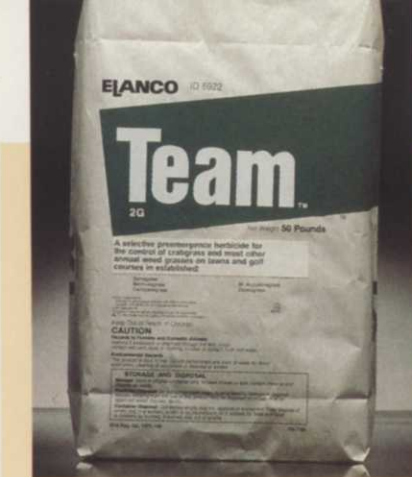
■ ■ We're not seeing (crabgrass) at all this year. ■ ■

—Bob DeKraft  
Fairfax, Va.

customers disease control with applications of Rubigan fungicide. Rubigan controls the two most common lawn diseases, fusarium blight complex and dollar spot, either preventatively or curatively.

Rubigan has been proven unique in that it controls all three pathogens of the fusarium blight complex. This eliminates the need to try to correctly identify the specific pathogen. A preventative treatment of 2 oz. per 1,000 sq. ft. at 30-day intervals will solve this expanding disease problem.

Also, Rubigan is a natural for use in preventative or curative dollar spot control. An application of Rubigan 50W



will give 14 to 21 days of control at  $\frac{2}{10}$  oz. per 1,000 sq. ft. or 30 days of control at  $\frac{4}{10}$  oz. per 1,000 sq. ft. There's no better value fungicide for dollar spot control.

And, while your applicators are out on their rounds, another service to offer customers is weed control in ornamental beds with Surflan or Treflan. Both products provide over-the-top control of a wide range of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in 150 species of ornamentals. Surflan is available in a sprayable formulation while Treflan is an easy-to-use granular.

Vince Flecker has found Surflan plus Roundup suits his Shur-Spray Lawn Care

operation.

"We use it primarily for control along fencelines and around trees," says the Indianapolis LCO. "I drove by a site yesterday that we treated in the spring. It's been 90 to 95 percent effective, which I feel is pretty good. The best thing about it is that it's safe around trees."

Shur-Spray first used the wettable powder formulation four years ago, but has since changed to the liquid formulation.

Team, Balan, Rubigan, Surflan or Treflan can provide lawn care operators with the performance needed to have satisfied customers with fewer callbacks.