

## LAWN CARE

### Spring is time to start looking out for lyme disease

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Officials at Lawn Doctor headquarters in Matawan, N.J. are expecting "the problem of lyme disease to increase in the 1990s," according to information disseminated at the company's annual franchisee seminar here.

"The peak period of lyme disease incidence (May-June-July) coordinates with people's outdoor activity," notes Bill Davis of Lawn Doctor. "And northeastern states have shown a high concentration of the disease." Davis says that New York Medical College found one county with 1200 confirmed cases of lyme disease. Research showed that 65 percent of the cases had picked up the disease from infected ticks in their own lawn.

Symptoms of the disease

come in three "phases:"

**Phase I:** bulls-eye rash

**Phase II:** chills and fever, headaches, fatigue, pain and swelling in joints

**Phase III:** irreversible arthritis, cardiac damage, facial paralysis, nerve damage.

Here are hints that Davis

gave to franchisees on minimizing the disease:

- instruct homeowners to keep lawns mowed and raked, underbrush clean;

- tell them to locate bird feeders away from the house;

- have them inspect children and pets for ticks;

- stay away from wooded areas;

- when making chemical applications, keep pant legs tucked in boots or socks;

- spray lawns with Dursban 50 WSP or Dursban granules for flea and tick control. □

## LAWN CARE

### State groups will organize with help from the PLCAA

INDIANAPOLIS — Lawn care operators representing 19 states are taking steps to form statewide associations.

Detailed organizational meetings are set to begin this month, according to Robert E. Andrews of the Indiana State Lawn Care Association. He is spearheading the efforts, which are sponsored by Monsanto and the Professional Lawn Care Association of America.

Preliminary seminars were

planned here in December, and Andrews was pleased with the anticipated turnout. "If we could have had six or seven states we'd be pleased, but we have 19," he said.

Interested representatives hail from Tennessee, Oklahoma, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas, Montana, New Jersey, Colorado, Nebraska, Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Dakota, Florida, Iowa and Idaho. □



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