

ask the expert

BY BALAKRISHNA RAO

Reader identifies mistake

You mentioned using Flagship (an insecticide) for grub control in your column in the March 2000 issue of *Landscape Management*. I thought Flagship was for greenhouse and landscape ornamental plants?

— OHIO

This question is from Dr. Harry Niemczyk from OARDC, OSU and he is right. I am sorry for the misinformation on my part. The correct name I should have mentioned is Meridian for turf use.

Dr. David Cox from the Novartis Corporation, the manufacturer of both Flagship and Meridian, explained the difference. Both products have the same active ingredient and chemistry called thiomethoxam, and they are expecting the EPA registration soon. He mentioned that Meridian insecticide is for turf insect use, and Flagship is for greenhouse and landscape ornamental plants.

Managing grassy weeds

A client of ours has requested that we use Ronstar on a large, several acre property to manage grassy weeds. Recently, we have been using Pre-M. Which one should we use?

— KANSAS

Ronstar is a good herbicide designed to manage annual grassy weeds, such as crabgrass or goosegrass. This preemergent herbicide, formulated as a 2% granular in a biodegradable carrier, is labeled for use on commercial turgrasses, ornamentals and landscape areas.

Reports indicate that Ronstar will have

better results managing goosegrass than crabgrass. Apply Ronstar during late winter or early spring, prior to weed seed germination. Applications made after March or April may not be fully effective.

Studies have also stated that treating half the material in one direction, then treating the other half in the opposite direction may provide better weed control. Read and follow label specifications for best results.

Lilac borers

While pruning some dying branches on an overgrown lilac bush, I found a number of insect larvae. They were about an inch long, white with a brown head. How can I get rid of them?

— PENNSYLVANIA

According to your description, the problem appears to be lilac borer. Infested branches wilt as the larvae tunnel inside and destroy the xylem (sapwood). Eventually, the larvae move to the heartwood. Larvae will be 3/4 to 1 1/2 in. long, with a brown head. The adult is a moth that resembles a wasp.

Feeding damage will weaken the branches and cause breakage. Sometimes, wood-destroying fungi, such as *Polyporus sp.*, will form on the weakened branches.

Lilac borers overwinter in the branches, so you are doing the right thing by selectively pruning and getting rid of the dying or infested branches. To find an infestation, look over the branches for slightly swollen, cracked areas. You may also find holes in the bark and wood.

Treat the lilac with insecticides such as Dursban or Astro. Treatments can start in late April or early June depending on the re-

gion. You may need additional applications.

Borers generally establish on stressed and weakened plants. Therefore, reduce stress and improve plant health. Read and follow label specifications for best results.

Scale insects

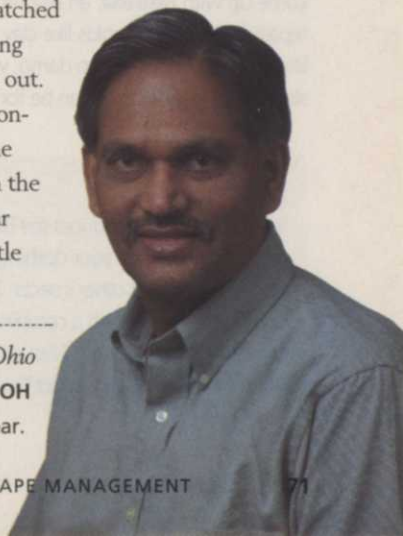
On a client's property, we found brown and white scale-like insects on a pachysandra. What are they?

— OHIO

It appears that the problem is a scale insect. The brown scales are female, and the whitish-colored scales are male. The females are shaped like an oyster shell and are brown. If you turn one over, you may see several eggs underneath. Males are smaller, narrower and white with ridges down the center of their backs. When they are in abundance, the lower side of a leaf may appear a whitish color.

Rake and remove dead and blighted plants to improve air circulation. Apply Horticultural Oil before new growth starts in the spring. Since oil applications do not have a long residual, the oil treatment should be followed by some contact insecticide treatment such as Malathion, Sevin or Talstar.

When applying contact insecticides, make sure that the scale eggs have hatched and the young crawlers are out. For better control, treat the plants when the second instar crawlers settle down.



Manager of Research and Technical Development for the Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO: "Ask the Expert" Landscape Management, 7500 Old Oak Blvd.; Cleveland, OH 44130, or email: sgibson@advanstar.com. Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear.

products

TECH CENTER

Cutting sod

The 512 sod cutter, Turfco says, saves a lot of work because it is built for maneuverability, engineered to keep machine weight down and structurally designed to cut through the toughest soil conditions. A hand grip clutch control, which stops the sod cutter when the operator releases it, and operating instructions on the handlebar make it operator friendly. An optional feature is a blade for cutting tree rings. A 12-in. angled blade cuts to a 3-in. depth at the outer edge and up to zero at the inner edge.

For more information contact Turfco at 800/679-8201 or www.turfco.com / circle no. 250

Controlled-release fertilizers

Lesco's new line of controlled-release fertilizers known as Novex maximize the nitrogen best suited to growing quality turfgrass and minimize the nitrogen that is of little value. Advanced technology gives the fertilizers the ability to decrease the inefficient quick-release unreacted urea and the slow-release hot water insoluble nitrogen, while increasing the highly efficient controlled-release midrange nitrogen segments. The fertilizers are formulated as a totally homogeneous, uncoated product and the particles are so small and dense they resist pickup by mowers.

For more information contact Lesco at 440/333-9250 / circle no. 251

Fix anything

Irrigation contractors, listen up. Christy's has come up with FastFix®, an all-purpose epoxy repair putty. FastFix molds like clay and hardens like steel and can bond to damp, wet and slow-leaking surfaces. It can be formed, drilled,



sanded, tapped, sawed or painted and can fill holes, patch cracks, bond surfaces and repair leaks. FastFix is available in 4 oz., 7-in. sticks, packed in reusable tubes.

For more information contact T. Christy Enterprises at 800/258-4583 / circle no. 252

Compact excavator

JCB has a new 1.5-ton mini-excavator that features a variable width undercarriage and works hydraulically from the cab. The undercarriage can be retracted to 3 ft. 2 in. for confined areas or expanded to 4 ft. 5 in. for stability. It can also straddle a trench if the need arises. A two-speed tracking feature allows for a low speed of 1.3 mph and high speed of 2.2 mph.

For more information contact JCB at 888/742-5522 or www.jcbna.com / circle no. 253

Seeder for small jobs

The T60 HydroSeeder is perfect for landscape contractors requiring a fast and economical machine for seeding smaller jobs, says Finn Corp. Designed for use by a single operator, the machine has a 500-gal. capacity and covers up to 7,200 sq. ft. per load with seed, fertilizer

and mulch in a one-step process. Controls are located in two places for operator convenience, and the low profile design allows easy loading and stability during operation and transport.



For more information contact Finn Corp. at 800/543-7166 or www.finncorp.com / circle no. 254

Productive stump cutter

Chip containment, improved suspension and a 4-cyl. diesel engine are just some of the features of Vermeer's mid-size 50-hp SC502A stump cutter designed to deliver maximum horsepower to the cutter wheel for optimum productivity with a gear drive system. But what makes it special, Vermeer says, is the AutoSweep system, which maintains rated engine speed to cut 19-in. deep and 67-in. wide.

For more information contact Vermeer at 888/VERMEER or www.vermeer.com / circle no. 255

Get an edge

For The Edge says it has come up with a trencher that can trench for sprinkler systems, drain tile, low voltage electrical lines and landscape walls. A new floating cutting head cuts up and over large underground obstructions. Cut a clean trench up to 25 ft. per minute, and watch the Trench 'N edge clean up after itself by blowing materials directly onto tarps. A single front pivot wheel offers a turning radius as tight as 18 in. With an optional adapter, the trencher can make multiple passes as wide as the user requires.

For more information contact For The Edge at

Bug off

Tec Laboratories introduces the Bug Button, an all-natural insect repelling disc that you pin on your clothing to ward off mosquitoes, bees, flies, gnats, yellow jackets and other insects. The Bug Button doesn't contain DEET; rather, it is infused with a combination of lemongrass, geranium and citronella oil. It lasts up to 55 hours and is sold in a 60-count box.

For more information contact Tec Labs at 800/482-4464 x325 / circle no. 256



continued on page 74



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Now it's easy to know whether you have the best turfgrass mixtures and blends available. Just look for the *Jacklin Genetics* label.

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Circle No. 129 on Reader Inquiry Card

products

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800/483-3437 or www.trenchedge.com / circle no. 257

Chipper with more pull

Bandit Industries' 280XP hydraulic feed, disc-style chipper is now equipped with a new hydraulic feed system that provides 60% more hydraulic pulling power. Also, the bottom and top feed wheels both have new knife style



teeth that better grip material being fed into the chipper.

For more information contact Bandit at 800/952-0178 / circle no. 258

Scat, deer!

Deer-Off deer repellent, which features a dual deterrent system formula that leaves both an odor and a taste that animals find offensive, is now available in ready-to-use spray bottles. Made from natural, biodegradable food products, the repellent contains no harmful chemicals and is safe for people, animals and the environment.

For more information contact Deer-Off at 800/333-7633 / circle no. 259

Chop those bales

The new Goossen NA 8000 18 hp bale chopper can mulch two bales of straw per minute

while covering 1,000 sq. ft. per bale. An adjustable grate allows operators to control the length of cut and the rate at which the bale is consumed. Options include electric start Honda engine with recoil backup, detachable gas tank, 30' x 6" flex hose for discharge and 180° directional spout for discharge.

For more information contact Goossen at 800/228-6542 or www.goossen.com / circle no. 260

Big features for big loaders

Gehl's new Avantage mini-loaders come in compact packages but have big loader features. As narrow as 33 1/2 in., they're perfect for light construction, landscaping or lawn and turf maintenance. Featuring full-time 4-wheel drive, both the skid-steer and articulated-steering units are available with 20-hp diesel engines. Flat-faced dripless auxiliary hydraulic couplers and a

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Landscape
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- Lawn Classics
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- Mountaineer Lawn Care Inc.
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- WLM Workaholics Landscape Management

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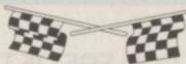
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PARAGON

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PARAGON is a new release that has just now been entered into the new 1999 National Perennial Ryegrass Trial. Pre-N.T.E.P. testing at various Universities across the U.S. has already shown PARAGON to be a contender for the title of one of the best new varieties to come along in years!

PARAGON has one of the darkest -- green leaf colors of any Perennial Ryegrass available in the market today. In the University of Florida's 1998-99 Overseeding trials, they found "Overseeded grasses on the putting green that had the darkest green foliage, which averaged 8.5, included Brightstar II and PARAGON." Pretty impressive when you consider the scale only goes to 9!

PARAGON is also setting new standards for fine leaf texture and disease resistance. This new variety will produce a very dense turf that can be mowed as short as .19" for putting greens or at 1/2 inch in Fairways. Its high level of beneficial endophytes adds resistance to many turf pests.

Be sure and specify this new PARAGON of turfgrass performance for all your Perennial Ryegrass needs.

TURF COLOR

in overseed grasses grown on a 'Tifdwarf' bermudagrass putting green and on a 'Tifway' bermudagrass fairway during 1997 - 98 at

Gainesville, FL.

Turfgrass	Putting green Color	Fairway Color
Paragon	4.43	4.89 ab
Catalina	4.10	4.93
Roadrunner II	4.10	4.70
Premier II	4.07	4.93
Cathedral II	4.07	4.82
PR Blend 1	4.03	4.66
Charger II	3.93	4.66
Vivid	3.90	4.77
Ice	3.87	4.66
Divine	3.87	4.62
Gator II	3.87	4.36
Palmer II	3.87	4.73

COLLEGE OF THE DESERT
OVERSEED TURFGRASS TRIALS -
1997 - 1998 SEASON - Palm Desert, CA.

DENSITY

ENTRY	MEAN
PARAGON P.R.	6.48
ROADRUNNER P.R.	6.27
CATALINA P.R.	6.13
SEVILLE P.R.	6.00
BRIGHT STAR P.R.	5.97
ACADEMY P.R.	5.94
VIVID P.R.	5.90
PAGENT P.R.	5.87
CHARGER II P.R.P	5.82
CITATION III P.R.	5.75

Score 1-10, 1=dead, 5=moderate, 10=most dense.

Seasonal average

GENETIC COLOR

of overseed grasses during transition at Gainesville, FL.

Turfgrass	Color
Brightstar II	8.57
PARAGON	8.57
Citation III	8.50
Roadrunner	8.48
Catalina	8.47
Gator II	8.41
Charger II	8.38
Buccaneer II	8.16
Navajo	8.16
Vibrant	8.13

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products

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quick-attach system make attachment changes quick and easy. Attachments include buckets, pallet forks, earth augers, trenchers, hydraulic hammers and mower decks.

For more information contact Gehl at 414/334-9461 or www.gehl.com / circle no. 261

Efficient & flexible spraying

Delavan Spray Technologies' roller pumps are designed for the flexibility needs of horticultural spraying and pest control. Pump flow range is 6.5 to 46 gpm; maximum pressure rating is 300 psi. Pumps may be used with gas or electric motors or 1 3/4-in. or 1 3/8-in. PTO drives. Also offered is a 12 VDC four-roller pump/motor package that delivers 6.8 gpm at 40 psi.

For more information contact Delavan at 800/621-9357 / circle no. 262

Compact dozers

Two new models of compact dozers from Komatsu, the D21A-7 and D21P-7, feature operating weights from 8,710 lbs. to 9,220 lbs., making them the easiest dozers to transport to a job site. Additional features include hydroshift



transmission with single lever steering, 40-hp engines, Pressure Proportional Control (PPC) joystick and 6-way power-angle tilt blade also with a PPC joystick. The hydroshift transmission with planetary gears is hydraulically controlled and force lubricated. The 6-way PAT blade

movement is controlled by a single PPC joystick. Pushing a button on the hydraulic control lever switches tilt to angle control.

For more information contact Komatsu at 847/837-2447 or www.komatsuutility.com / circle no. 263

No washing away here

Rohm and Haas Co. has a new formulation of Fore fungicide called Fore Rainshield which drastically improves Fore's ability to resist wash-off due to heavy rains or irrigation. Rohm and Haas says it is much easier to mix than other Mancozeb formulations, suspends more readily in the spray tank and leaves a lot less residue inside the spray tank. It is available in two forms: as an 80% wettable powder or in 1.5-lb. water soluble pouches.

For more information call 215/504-9215 or www.rohmhaas.com / circle no. 264

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May 2000

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CONTRACTORS/SERVICE COMPANIES

- 02 255 Landscape Contractors (installation and maintenance)
- 03 260 Lawn Care Service Companies
- 04 265 Custom Chemical Applicators
- 05 270 Tree Service Companies/Arborists
- 06 275 Landscape Architects
- 07 280 Land Reclamation and Erosion Control
- 08 285 Irrigation Contractors
- Other Contractors/Service Companies (please specify) _____

INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES

- 09 290 Sports Complexes
- 10 295 Parks
- 11 300 Right-of-Way Maintenance for Highways, Railroads or Utilities
- 12 305 Schools, Colleges, Universities
- 13 310 Industrial or Office Parks/Plants
- 14 315 Shopping Centers, Plazas or Malls
- 15 320 Private/Public Estates or Museums
- 16 325 Condominiums/Apartments/Housing Developments/Hotels/Resorts
- 17 330 Cemeteries/Memorial Gardens
- 18 335 Hospitals/Health Care Institutions
- 19 340 Military Installations or Prisons
- 20 345 Airports
- 21 350 Multiple Government/Municipal Facilities
- Other Grounds-care (please specify) _____

SUPPLIERS AND CONSULTANTS

- 22 355 Extension Agents/Consultants for Horticulture
- 23 360 Sod Growers, Turf Seed Growers & Nurseries
- 24 365 Dealers, Distributors, Formulators & Brokers
- 25 370 Manufacturers
- Other (please specify) _____

2. Which of the following best describes your title? (fill in ONE only)

- 10 **Executive/Administrator** - President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Director of Physical Plant
- 20 **Manager/Superintendent** - Arborist, Architect, Landscape/Grounds Manager, Superintendent, Foreman, Supervisor
- 30 **Government Official** - Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
- 40 **Specialist** - Forester, Consultant, Agronomist, Pilot, Instructor, Researcher, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
- 50 **Other Titled and Non-Titled Personnel** (please specify) _____

3. SERVICES PERFORMED (fill in ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 40 A Mowing | <input type="radio"/> 45 F Turf Fertilization | <input type="radio"/> 50 K Paving, Deck & Patio Installation |
| <input type="radio"/> 41 B Turf Insect Control | <input type="radio"/> 46 G Turf Disease Control | <input type="radio"/> 51 L Pond/Lake Care |
| <input type="radio"/> 42 C Tree Care | <input type="radio"/> 47 H Ornamental Care | <input type="radio"/> 52 M Landscape Installation |
| <input type="radio"/> 43 D Turf Aeration | <input type="radio"/> 48 I Landscape Design | <input type="radio"/> 53 N Snow Removal |
| <input type="radio"/> 44 E Irrigation Services | <input type="radio"/> 49 J Turf Weed Control | <input type="radio"/> 54 O Other (please specify) _____ |

4a. Do you specify, purchase or influence the selection of landscape products?

- 75 Yes 76 No

4b. If yes, check which products you buy or specify: (fill in ALL that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 55 1 Aerators | <input type="radio"/> 62 8 Herbicides | <input type="radio"/> 69 15 Sweepers |
| <input type="radio"/> 56 2 Blowers | <input type="radio"/> 63 9 Insecticides | <input type="radio"/> 70 16 Tractors |
| <input type="radio"/> 57 3 Chain Saws | <input type="radio"/> 64 10 Line Trimmers | <input type="radio"/> 71 17 Truck Trailers/Attachments |
| <input type="radio"/> 58 4 Chipper-Shredders | <input type="radio"/> 65 11 Mowers | <input type="radio"/> 72 18 Trucks |
| <input type="radio"/> 59 5 De-icers | <input type="radio"/> 66 12 Snow Removal Equipment | <input type="radio"/> 73 19 Turfseed |
| <input type="radio"/> 60 6 Fertilizers | <input type="radio"/> 67 13 Sprayers | <input type="radio"/> 74 20 Utility Vehicles |
| <input type="radio"/> 61 7 Fungicides | <input type="radio"/> 68 14 Spreaders | |

5. Do you have Internet Access? 77 A Yes 78 B No

5a. If so, how often do you use it?

- 79 A Daily 80 B Weekly 81 C Monthly 82 D Occasionally

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102	114	126	138	150	162	174	186	198	210	222	234	246	258	270	282	294	306
103	115	127	139	151	163	175	187	199	211	223	235	247	259	271	283	295	307
104	116	128	140	152	164	176	188	200	212	224	236	248	260	272	284	296	308
105	117	129	141	153	165	177	189	201	213	225	237	249	261	273	285	297	309
106	118	130	142	154	166	178	190	202	214	226	238	250	262	274	286	298	310
107	119	131	143	155	167	179	191	203	215	227	239	251	263	275	287	299	311
108	120	132	144	156	168	180	192	204	216	228	240	252	264	276	288	300	312
109	121	133	145	157	169	181	193	205	217	229	241	253	265	277	289	301	313
110	122	134	146	158	170	182	194	206	218	230	242	254	266	278	290	302	314
111	123	135	147	159	171	183	195	207	219	231	243	255	267	279	291	303	315
112	124	136	148	160	172	184	196	208	220	232	244	256	268	280	292	304	316



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- 02 255 Landscape Contractors (installation and maintenance)
- 03 260 Lawn Care Service Companies
- 04 265 Custom Chemical Applicators
- 05 270 Tree Service Companies/Arborists
- 06 275 Landscape Architects
- 07 280 Land Reclamation and Erosion Control
- 08 285 Irrigation Contractors
- Other Contractors/Service Companies (please specify) _____

INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES

- 09 290 Sports Complexes
- 10 295 Parks
- 11 300 Right-of-Way Maintenance for Highways, Railroads or Utilities
- 12 305 Schools, Colleges, Universities
- 13 310 Industrial or Office Parks/Plants
- 14 315 Shopping Centers, Plazas or Malls
- 15 320 Private/Public Estates or Museums
- 16 325 Condominiums/Apartments/Housing Developments/Hotels/Resorts
- 17 330 Cemeteries/Memorial Gardens
- 18 335 Hospitals/Health Care Institutions
- 19 340 Military Installations or Prisons
- 20 345 Airports
- 21 350 Multiple Government/Municipal Facilities
- Other Groundscare (please specify) _____

SUPPLIERS AND CONSULTANTS

- 22 355 Extension Agents/Consultants for Horticulture
- 23 360 Sod Growers, Turf Seed Growers & Nurseries
- 24 365 Dealers, Distributors, Formulators & Brokers
- 25 370 Manufacturers
- Other (please specify) _____

2. Which of the following best describes your title? (fill in ONE only)

- 26 10 Executive/Administrator - President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Director of Physical Plant
- 27 20 Manager/Superintendent - Arborist, Architect, Landscape/Grounds Manager, Superintendent, Foreman, Supervisor
- 28 30 Government Official - Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
- 29 40 Specialist - Forester, Consultant, Agronomist, Pilot, Instructor, Researcher, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
- 30 50 Other Titled and Non-Titled Personnel (please specify) _____

3. SERVICES PERFORMED (fill in ALL that apply)

- 40 A Mowing
- 41 B Turf Insect Control
- 42 C Tree Care
- 43 D Turf Aeration
- 44 E Irrigation Services
- 45 F Turf Fertilization
- 46 G Turf Disease Control
- 47 H Ornamental Care
- 48 I Landscape Design
- 49 J Turf Weed Control
- 50 K Paving, Deck & Patio Installation
- 51 L Pond/Lake Care
- 52 M Landscape Installation
- 53 N Snow Removal
- 54 O Other (please specify) _____

4a. Do you specify, purchase or influence the selection of landscape products?

- 75 Yes 76 No

4b. If yes, check which products you buy or specify: (fill in ALL that apply)

- 55 1 Aerators
- 56 2 Blowers
- 57 3 Chain Saws
- 58 4 Chipper-Shredders
- 59 5 De-icers
- 60 6 Fertilizers
- 61 7 Fungicides
- 62 8 Herbicides
- 63 9 Insecticides
- 64 10 Line Trimmers
- 65 11 Mowers
- 66 12 Snow Removal Equipment
- 67 13 Sprayers
- 68 14 Spreaders
- 69 15 Sweepers
- 70 16 Tractors
- 71 17 Truck Trailers/Attachments
- 72 18 Trucks
- 73 19 Turfseed
- 74 20 Utility Vehicles

5. Do you have Internet Access? 77 A Yes 78 B No

5a. If so, how often do you use it?

- 79 A Daily 80 B Weekly 81 C Monthly 82 D Occasionally

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101	113	125	137	149	161	173	185	197	209	221	233	245	257	269	281	293	305
102	114	126	138	150	162	174	186	198	210	222	234	246	258	270	282	294	306
103	115	127	139	151	163	175	187	199	211	223	235	247	259	271	283	295	307
104	116	128	140	152	164	176	188	200	212	224	236	248	260	272	284	296	308
105	117	129	141	153	165	177	189	201	213	225	237	249	261	273	285	297	309
106	118	130	142	154	166	178	190	202	214	226	238	250	262	274	286	298	310
107	119	131	143	155	167	179	191	203	215	227	239	251	263	275	287	299	311
108	120	132	144	156	168	180	192	204	216	228	240	252	264	276	288	300	312
109	121	133	145	157	169	181	193	205	217	229	241	253	265	277	289	301	313
110	122	134	146	158	170	182	194	206	218	230	242	254	266	278	290	302	314
111	123	135	147	159	171	183	195	207	219	231	243	255	267	279	291	303	315
112	124	136	148	160	172	184	196	208	220	232	244	256	268	280	292	304	316