



Mowed turfgrass requires a constant, steady supply of nitrogen during the growing season.

deeper, cooler layers of the soil profile. Only water-insoluble nitrogen (WIN) contributes to a soil reserve of N from which plants can draw as needed.

Ureaform and methyleneurea fertilizers supply both useable nitrogen and carbon to soil microorganisms. In turn, ammonium nitrogen ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ) is gradually released back to the soil and subsequently to the nitrate form that plants prefer.

Reacted-urea N solutions have less burn potential than straight urea, and provide controlled release of nitrogen. They shouldn't claim slow release or water insoluble nitrogen unless they contain ureaform in suspension. **LM**

— The author is a technical consultant with Nu-Gro Technologies, Inc.

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Circle 130

## ask the expert

BY BALAKRISHNA RAO

### Multiple stress syndrome

**A number of ash, sugar maple and oak trees with thin crowns are showing decline at a campground. Walkways there contain small gravel which we think is crushed limestone. There also appears to be a lot of soil compaction. Most of the trees were planted about four years ago. Grass is growing close to the trunks. We haven't seen any rodents or other means of bark injury. Any idea what may be wrong?**

— CANADA

Based on your description of the growing site and plant decline, it appears the problem is related to a combination of stress factors that I call "multiple stress syndrome." A stress factor such as compaction can limit air and water infiltration to the rootzone, and crushed limestone can raise the soil pH level and adversely affect nutrient uptake. This can lead to nutrient deficiency and chlorosis disorder. Check for the possibility of a high pH-related problem. Also, consider that these trees are newly transplanted and experiencing transplant shock. Check for problems such as deep planting or left-over nylon threads, which can cause girdling roots at the soil line and prevent water and nutrient uptake. After transplanting, it takes several years for the plant to establish. During this recovery period, exposure to moisture and/or temperature extremes can induce lots of stress on plants. Lack of moisture during drought can particularly affect overall tree health. Without proper water and air, roots cannot grow. Without a good root system, the above ground plant parts also stop growing.

To manage this problem, consider vertical mulching or radial trenching and filling

with compost to improve air circulation. Recovery from decline is a slow process. Proper watering, mulching, fertilizing and pest management as needed would improve the plant health. If the soil pH has been elevated above 7.5, remove the limestone if possible and replace with pea gravel or other material that's not alkaline.

### Alternative options

**With some organophosphate and carbamate insecticides slowly disappearing, we need to find comparable alternative pesticides to use. In our insect control program, we've used Dursban, Sevin, Orthene, etc. to control caterpillars feeding on trees and shrubs. What alternative insecticides would be good to use in this situation?**

— MD

To manage destructive caterpillars, consider using Talstar, Tempo, Deltagard, Scimitar, Astro, Conserve, Merit, Meridian (Flagship), Bt, insecticidal soap, and oil.

Some of the alternative pesticides won't have long residual effects like many traditional insecticides. Therefore, it's important to periodically monitor and know the insect's biology to provide good management of specific pests as needed. Once you know your key target pests, treat them as needed using the multiple target principle. In this approach, provide the treatment at the optimum time to obtain management of multiple pests of different species at a given time from that particular treatment. Because of shorter residual of some of the alternative pesticides, multiple applications at shorter intervals may be needed.

### Dollar weed dilemma

**How do we get rid of dollar weed from centipedegrass? Also, since the centipede lawn is thin, how can we improve the turf?**

— FL

Dollar weed requires a lot of water for good growth, so cut down the amount of water you provide to reduce growth. Second, centipedegrass doesn't need too much nitrogen per year.

To manage the dollar weed using herbicides, consider using Atrazine. Atrazine can be applied as a liquid or in granular formulation. Reportedly, granular Atrazine with fertilizer performs better. Consider using fertilizer products such as 20-0-20 with Atrazine or 0-0-7 with Atrazine. Generally, one time per year is sufficient.

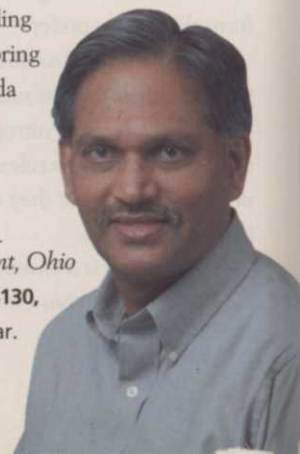
If the centipedegrass becomes yellow and shows evidence of nutrient deficiency, treat with iron products. Iron starvation can weaken the turf, turf density and growth.

By using Atrazine herbicide once, dollar weed might begin to disappear. Your existing centipedegrass should fill in open areas, and the lawn should become more dense. If it doesn't fill in the empty areas, consider either vegetative sprigging or sodding as needed. Both of these operations are labor intensive and expensive, so only consider them if your cultural approaches plus herbicide management don't provide satisfactory results. Generally, overseeding isn't done with centipedegrass.

Sprigging or sodding can be done in spring in northern Florida and any time in other areas in Florida.

*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: [jstahl@advanstar.com](mailto:jstahl@advanstar.com). Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear.



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February 2002

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- 03  260 Lawn Care Service Companies & Custom Chemical Applicators (ground & air)
- 04  285 Irrigation Contractors & Consultants
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**LANDSCAPING/GROUNDS CARE FACILITIES**

- 05  290 Sports Complexes
- 06  295 Parks
- 07  305 Schools, Colleges & Universities
- Other Grounds Care Facilities (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLIERS AND CONSULTANTS**

- 08  355 Extension Agents/Consultants for Horticulture
- 09  360 Sod Growers, Turf Seed Growers & Nurseries
- 10  365 Dealers, Distributors, Formulators & Brokers
- 11  370 Manufacturers
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 12  10 **Executive/Administrator** - President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Director of Physical Plant
- 13  20 **Manager/Superintendent** - Arborist, Architect, Landscape/Grounds Manager, Superintendent, Foreman, Supervisor
- 14  30 **Government Official** - Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
- 15  40 **Specialist** - Forester, Consultant, Agronomist, Pilot, Instructor, Researcher, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
- 16  50 **Other Titled and Non-Titled Personnel** (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
 TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
 FIRM \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Is this your home address?  Yes  No  
 PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3. SERVICES PERFORMED (fill in ALL that apply)

- 17  A Mowing
- 18  B Turf Insect Control
- 19  C Tree Care
- 20  D Turf Aeration
- 21  E Irrigation Services
- 22  F Turf Fertilization
- 23  G Turf Disease Control
- 24  H Ornamental Care
- 25  I Landscape Design
- 26  J Turf Weed Control
- 27  K Paving, Deck & Patio Installation
- 28  L Pond/Lake Care
- 29  M Landscape Installation
- 30  N Snow Removal
- 31  O Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 58  Yes 59  No

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

- 32  1 Aerators
- 33  2 Blowers
- 34  3 Chain Saws
- 35  4 Chipper-Shredders
- 36  5 De-icers
- 37  6 Fertilizers
- 38  7 Fungicides
- 39  8 Herbicides
- 40  9 Insecticides
- 41  10 Line Trimmers
- 42  11 Mowers
- 43  12 Snow Removal Equipment
- 44  13 Sprayers
- 45  14 Spreaders
- 46  15 Sweepers
- 47  16 Tractors
- 48  17 Truck Trailers/Attachments
- 49  18 Trucks
- 50  19 Turfseed
- 51  20 Utility Vehicles

5. Do you have Internet access? 52  A Yes 53  B No

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

- 54  A Daily 55  B Weekly 56  C Monthly 57  D Occasionally

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
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**3. SERVICES PERFORMED (fill in ALL that apply)**

- |                                                |                                                 |                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17 <input type="radio"/> A Mowing              | 22 <input type="radio"/> F Turf Fertilization   | 27 <input type="radio"/> K Paving, Deck & Patio Installation |
| 18 <input type="radio"/> B Turf Insect Control | 23 <input type="radio"/> G Turf Disease Control | 28 <input type="radio"/> L Pond/Lake Care                    |
| 19 <input type="radio"/> C Tree Care           | 24 <input type="radio"/> H Ornamental Care      | 29 <input type="radio"/> M Landscape Installation            |
| 20 <input type="radio"/> D Turf Aeration       | 25 <input type="radio"/> I Landscape Design     | 30 <input type="radio"/> N Snow Removal                      |
| 21 <input type="radio"/> E Irrigation Services | 26 <input type="radio"/> J Turf Weed Control    | 31 <input type="radio"/> O Other (please specify) _____      |

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- |                                              |                                                    |                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 32 <input type="radio"/> 1 Aerators          | 39 <input type="radio"/> 8 Herbicides              | 46 <input type="radio"/> 15 Sweepers                   |
| 33 <input type="radio"/> 2 Blowers           | 40 <input type="radio"/> 9 Insecticides            | 47 <input type="radio"/> 16 Tractors                   |
| 34 <input type="radio"/> 3 Chain Saws        | 41 <input type="radio"/> 10 Line Trimmers          | 48 <input type="radio"/> 17 Truck Trailers/Attachments |
| 35 <input type="radio"/> 4 Chipper-Shredders | 42 <input type="radio"/> 11 Mowers                 | 49 <input type="radio"/> 18 Trucks                     |
| 36 <input type="radio"/> 5 De-icers          | 43 <input type="radio"/> 12 Snow Removal Equipment | 50 <input type="radio"/> 19 Turfseed                   |
| 37 <input type="radio"/> 6 Fertilizers       | 44 <input type="radio"/> 13 Sprayers               | 51 <input type="radio"/> 20 Utility Vehicles           |
| 38 <input type="radio"/> 7 Fungicides        | 45 <input type="radio"/> 14 Spreaders              |                                                        |

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For more information contact Knox Industries at 877/456-6699 or [www.knox.com](http://www.knox.com) / circle no. 250



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For more information contact Buhler at 204/661-8711 or [www.buhler.com](http://www.buhler.com) / circle no. 253



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For more information contact Bandit at 800/952-0178 or [www.banditchippers.com](http://www.banditchippers.com) / circle no. 251

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Sisis's Rotorake 600 thatch remover has a 13-hp engine, a 24-in. working width and will work to a maximum depth of 2 in. It also has one neutral, one reverse and six forward gears and front or rear discharge.

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## Cut it out

Exmark has two new Lazer Z mid-mount zero-turns, one with a 20-hp Kohler engine and one with a 25-hp Kawasaki engine. The new 20-hp features a 52-in. UltraCut deck, and the engine has a heavy duty canister air filter and clean-out

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**events**

WHAT, WHEN & WHERE

February

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**20-21 Landscape Industry Show /** Long Beach, CA; 800/448-2522

**20-22 Winter Workshop 2002 /** Bethesda, MD; Sponsored by the Landscape Contractors Association; 301/948-0810

**22 ILCA Annual Excellence in Landscape Awards Dinner and Ceremony /** Oak Brook, IL; 630/472-2851

**22-23 Xeriscape Conference 2002 /** Albuquerque, New Mexico; 505/341-5743

**23-3 Southern Spring Show /** Charlotte, NC; 704/376-6594

**25 NYSTA Southeast Regional Conference /** Suffern, NY; [www.nysta.org](http://www.nysta.org)

**25-1 Indiana-Illinois Turfgrass Short Course /** Willowbrook, IL; 765/494-8039

**26-28 Western PA Turf Conference & Trade Show /** Monroeville, PA; 814/863-3475

**27 NJLCA Trade Show & Conference /** Secaucus, NJ; 201/664-6310

**27-3 Wichita Lawn, Flower and Garden Show /** Wichita, KS; 316/721-8740

**28 Connecticut Groundskeepers Association Trade Show /** Hartford, CT; 203/699-9912

March

**5-6 CALCP Spring Training Conference /** Aurora, CO; 303/850-7587

**5-7 New England Regional Turf Conference & Trade Show /** Providence, RI; 401/848-0004

**5-8 The Work Truck Show /** Orlando, FL; 800/441-6832

**6-7 Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Assn. Trade Show and Convention /** Novi, MI; 800/354-6352

**9-17 Chicago Flower & Garden Show /** Chicago, IL; 312/321-0077

**11 NYSTA Western Regional Conference /** Buffalo, NY; [www.nysta.org](http://www.nysta.org)

**16 ILCA Equipment Auction /** Crystal Lake, IL; 630/472-2851

**21-24 ALCA Student Career Days /** Peoria, IL; 800/395-2522

**22-24 Capital District Garden & Flower Show /** Troy, NY; 518/356-6410

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Circle No. 134

## AD INDEX

ASIC	50
122 ACRT Inc	59
138 Agri Fab Inc	40
113 Ariens	26
101 BASF	CV2-1
115 BASF	37
116 BASF	38-39
119 Bayer Corp	12-13
132 Bio Plex Organics	67
121 Bobcat Co	7
102 Dixie Chopper	CV3
Dow AgroSciences	31
126 Exmark	5
112 FertiGator Inc	21
136 Ferris Ind	68
130 Grasshopper Co Inc	61
123 Great Dane	11
104 Honda Power Equip	55
134 JRCO Inc	67
109 John Deere Co	22-23
133 Landscape Developers	67
124 LESCO Tech LLC	53
Monsanto Ind'l Turf & Orn	43-46
New England Regional Turfgrass	47
125 Nu Gro Tech Inc	8
129 Old Castle	60
135 PECO	68
118 Perma Green Supreme	4
108 Pond Supplies of America	17
106 Profile Products	49
120 Rain Bird Sales Contractor Div	51
127 Redexim Charterhouse	25
131 Rexius Forest By Products Inc	15
128 Roots Inc	58
107 Syngenta	16
103 Textron Inc	CV4
111 Tree Staple Inc	57
114 Uniroyal Chemical	27
110 United Horticultural Supply	33
117 United Horticultural Supply	34
105 Walker Mfg	2

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Landscape  Development

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Email: [SFleming@landscapedevelopment.com](mailto:SFleming@landscapedevelopment.com) [www.landscapedevelopment.com](http://www.landscapedevelopment.com)

Circle No. 133

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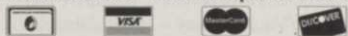
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