

# Greenspace

Turf Advisor

Mid-Summer 2011

## Corn Gluten Technology

### Amazing Products!

By now you have probably heard of Amaizeingly Green Corn Gluten-based products. So, you already know that Amaizeingly Green products:

- Were introduced last year.
- Are 100% Natural – Perfect for the environment!
- Are pet and child safe!



Let's review how Amaizeingly Green products work. The corn gluten meal contains dipeptides, which are amino acid polymers. The dipeptides inhibit root formation of germinating plants only. This difference means Amaizeingly Green products won't hurt plants that are more mature, unless the application rates are extremely high. Ideally Amaizeingly Green products should be applied before weeds germinate, and for this reason Amaizeingly Green is a pre-emergence treatment only, not post-emergence. Generally Amaizeingly Green will work for about 5 to 6 weeks following germination. Make sure to avoid overseeding for the same length of time following application of any Amaizeingly Green products.

Here is the line-up of the Amaizeingly Green products:

- 8-1-3 with Potash
- 9-1-1 with Kelp
- 8-1-1 with Neem Cake
- Weed n' Feed 10-0-0
- Liquid Corn Gluten

## Promo Offer on Amaizeingly Green

### Get A Free Spreader!

While supplies last, for the month of August only, buy a 1,000 L shuttle tote of Amaizeingly Green Liquid Corn Gluten and receive a free Earthway 2150 spreader!

Call to place your order today!



## Turf Diseases

### Red Thread



Red thread usually occurs on turf grasses during mild weather (5 – 20°C) and high humidity. These are the conditions that coastal BC has experienced for several months. It appears as pinkish to reddish threadlike patches. Affected turf can also have patches that appear tan or bleached. Perennial ryegrasses and red

fescues are most susceptible but Kentucky bluegrass can be infected as well. The fungus *Laetisaria fuciformis* causes red thread and turf is most susceptible under low nitrogen conditions. Banner Maxx is registered for control of red thread in Canada. Apply 51 mL per 100 square meters in a sufficient volume of water for thorough coverage. This treatment may be repeated at 14 day intervals for a maximum of three applications per year. Banner Maxx should be used on a preventive basis so apply when experience indicates conditions are optimal for red thread growth but before symptoms show. Maintain a good fertilizer program to encourage turf vigour. Avoid irrigating in the evening which will leave the turf damp overnight. Remove clippings when disease symptoms are present and wash equipment before moving mowers to uninfected turf. In many situations, following these cultural procedures are sufficient to prevent red thread problems.

## Natural Pest Control

### Bio Control of European Chafer

This nasty grub that infested Vancouver to New Westminster is now in Delta and spreading. Raccoons, skunks and birds love to dig them up and eat them, which increases damage in turf.



Rooted in your community.

TerraLink

### Control with Beneficial Nematodes:

These nematodes do not attack plants but search out the beetle grubs, leatherjacket grubs, black vine weevil grubs and more. Two species are important: *Steinernema feltiae* for cool soils through April and *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora* for warmer soils in May. Both come in packages of 50 million and treat 100 m<sup>2</sup>. Apply by watering in with a watering can or spray equipment. Beneficial nematodes are safe to use, fast and effective. Pre-ordering is important. Call us today at 604-864-9044.

### Turf Nutrition

## Summer Fertilizer Choices

To meet the nutritional needs of turf areas during the summer, we have two great options for you, depending on your needs and the policies of the Municipality, School District or Parks Board in which you work.

### 23-3-23 + micros, 60% methylene urea

Comprised of three types of nitrogen, RichGROW 23-3-23 is a premium product for high quality turf. The use of controlled release nitrogen results in minimal surge growth and prolonged colour response, and the balanced potash level assists turf tolerate the summer heat as well as resist diseases.

### 7-4-7 All Natural Fertilizer

Prilled all-natural fertilizer. Blends containing high levels of organic matter release nutrients slowly and therefore provide longer-lasting green-up in turf. 7-4-7 meets the new Canadian standards for organic products.

### Product Focus

## Munger Horticultural Vinegar Plus

Although it was introduced last season, it is a good time to take a closer look at Munger Horticultural Vinegar Plus in more detail, since the product works better in hot weather. That way, if we ever see normal hot weather this summer, you will be able to get the best results. A 20% acetic acid formulation, Munger Horticultural

Vinegar Plus is a non-selective, non-residual contact herbicide for use around ornamentals, on paved areas and rights of way. Single applications are sufficient for small and annual weeds, and retreatment of established and perennial weeds may be necessary. Best control will be achieved in hot weather, and if rain or irrigation do not follow application within an hour.



Products that can be considered Earth-friendly will likely increasingly be demanded by the public. Munger Horticultural Vinegar Plus is not certified as organic, yet compared to other contact herbicides registered under the PCP Act, it is arguably "softer" chemistry and therefore considered to be part of TerraLink's EarthLink line of environment-sustainable products. The word "Plus" in the name indicates the presence of an organic surfactant ingredient that helps the product adhere to the plant and helps the target plants absorb it. The only environmental warning regarding Munger Horticultural Vinegar Plus is that it is toxic to aquatic organisms.

### Environmentally Friendly

## Fiesta Lawn Weed Killer

Interested in a softer approach to weed control in turf?



Fiesta Lawn Weed Killer is an iron-based herbicide registered for control of broadleaf weeds, algae and moss on turf in parks, playing fields, rights of way and cemeteries. The active ingredient, essentially a chelated iron, is not the usual phenoxy product found in so many other commercial herbicides. For people concerned over "three-way" lawn weed killers, Fiesta may be their product of choice. Iron is a natural element found everywhere.

This product controls broadleaf weeds in turf because broadleaf plants (dicots) absorb more iron than grassy

plants (monocots). This differential selectivity in iron toxicity is the basis of Fiesta's mode of action. It quickly controls a wide range of broadleaf weeds within a day of application and is rain-fast in 3 hours. Once it is dry on the foliage it is safe for people and animals to re-enter the sprayed area. The highest rate should be used on weeds that are large and on perennial weeds. It can be repeated once in 4 weeks following the initial application. Fiesta should not be applied to bentgrass. It should only be applied on established sod which is not drought-stressed, and not in temperatures over 30 degrees C.

### Improving Communications

## New Brochure for Homeowners

Tax-paying home-owners are interested more than ever in what kinds of nutrients and pest controls are being applied in public places. At the same time, there is a clear message from those tax-payers. Municipalities, School Districts, Parks – the message is the same. How do you explain to them that the products you are spreading and spraying where children play and families picnic is safe?

Now, with the EarthLink products from TerraLink, you can assure the public that sustainable and environmentally softer nutrients and pest controls are being chosen on their behalf. To help you communicate this to home-owners, TerraLink is now offering to supply tri-fold brochures that explain in clear, simple terms what EarthLink is all about and how safe the products are. These brochures can be stocked in the public communication brochure racks in your head office, public communication centre or media outlet. Whenever a concerned citizen has questions, you can direct them to pick up one or other of TerraLink's tri-folds to answer those questions. You have work to do, so let us help you with public education.

An example of the tri-fold brochure is enclosed with this newsletter. If you are interested, call your TerraLink representative and specify how many you would like. Alternatively, if you would like an information brochure that differs slightly from this one please let us know.

