

# Lawn Care Advisor

Newsletter for Landscape Professionals

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 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 with Amaizeingly Green!

### Get a Free Spreader!

While supplies last, for the month of August only, buy ten or more pails of Amaizeingly Green Liquid Corn Gluten and receive a free Earthway 3100 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 lawn.



#### 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*

Rooted in your community.

TerraLink

*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.

## Lawn Nutrition

# Summer Fertilizer Choices

To meet the nutritional needs of lawns during the summer, we have two great options for you, depending on your needs and those of your customers.

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

Comprised of three types of nitrogen, RichGROW 23-3-23 is a premium product for lawn care professionals with demanding customers. The use of controlled release nitrogen results in minimal surge growth and prolonged colour response. 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 lawns. 7-4-7 meets the new Canadian organic standards, but remember if you need to guarantee it is organic for your customers you must check with your local organic certifying agency.

## 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 gardens, ornamentals, on paved areas and rights of way. Single applications are sufficient for small and annual weeds. 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 are increasingly in demand by the public, strata councils and homeowners. Munger Horticultural Vinegar Plus is not yet certified as organic, but 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 environmentally 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 lawns?



Fiesta Lawn Weed Killer is an iron-based herbicide registered for control of broadleaf weeds, algae and moss on lawns and turf areas. The active ingredient, iron, is not the usual chemical found in so many other commercial herbicides. For people worried about the usual "three-way" lawn weed killers, Fiesta may be their product of choice. Iron is naturally found everywhere.

This product controls broadleaf weeds in lawns because broadleaf plants absorb more iron than grassy plants. Iron toxicity is Fiesta's mode of action. It 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 leaf surface 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 first application. Fiesta should not be applied to bentgrass. It should only be applied on established lawn which is not drought-stressed, and not in temperatures over 30 degrees C.

## Customer Communication

# New Brochure Available for Your Customers

More than ever, home-owners and condo-dwellers are interested in what you are spreading and spraying on their lawns and landscaped areas. Tired of answering questions?

Now, with the EarthLink line of products from TerraLink, you can assure your customers that sustainable and environmentally softer nutrients and pest controls are being used on their yards and lawns. To help you, we have designed handy tri-fold brochures that you can give to your clients when they ask what you're doing. These brochures explain in clear, simple language what the EarthLink concept is all about, what the products are and how safe they are to use. Keep a bunch in the truck and hand them out when necessary. Then you can get back to work. After all, you're busy. The last thing you want to be doing is standing and trying to answer questions.

An example of the tri-fold brochure is enclosed with this newsletter. If you are interested, call the TerraLink sales desk 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.

