# Colin helps keep your lawn trouble free

Now that the thick blanket of snow that covered your lawn is gone, you can't hide it any longer.

Relax, most lawns aren't in the best of shape coming into this year.

According to lawn and

pesticide expert Colin Dickinson, last year was a very bad year for lawns.

The very hot, dry weather made life tough for your lawn as did the increased insects burrowing into it and feeding off it.

Now is the time to start your repair work. The owner-operator of Grass Roots says it's important to get a good amount of fertilizer on in early April. That should be followed up with a weed spray in early May. The spray controls the crab grass

that germinates now.

Mr. Dickinson's speciing also. He's an agrilivestock at Maple Leaf starting up his own

alty is grass, although he does some tree prunculture graduate of the University of Guelph who researched turf grass and grass for Mills Research prior to company in the spring of 1982.

Now is a good time to rake your lawn and remove the debris and

### SOME THINGS **HELP BY JUST** LYING THERE

Door and window draft guards are available that require no installation. They are tubes filled with loose insulating material or cand, and you simply lay them along the door bottom or where window sill meets sash. They vary from two feet long to nearly four feet, cost \$3 to \$7.

## MORE LIGHT. LESS HEAT

Fluorescent tubes are good energy-savers in two ways. They give off less heat when lit, and they put out more light per watt.

You can replace fixtures, or get fluorescent circular tubes for your regular lamps at varying prices, but they're all worth it.

#### REFLECTIVE FILM CUTS HEAT LOSSES

Reflective film is available at most home centers that can cut winter heat losses by from 10 to 40 percent.

It is a thin, plastic film that is applied directly to the inside of the window pane, attaching like adhesive paper, and it comes in different tints - silver. bronze, gold and smoke. You can buy it for \$1 to \$1.50 per square foot.

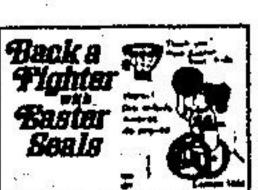
## VANITY NEEDS SEALOF APPROVAL

Plants usually do well in the bathroom because of the high humidity. Bathroom furnishings, however, may not fare as well.

If you have a bumpy rough lawn, you can smooth it out without plowing it all up. You can spread on a thin layer of top soil and seed into it, Grass Roots owner-operator Colin Dickinson says. Now's the time to rake all that debris and dead matter out of your lawn, and get the nitrogen-rich fertilizer into it.

(Herald photo)







dead material. Mr. Dickinson says to be careful not to rake too hard, especially if you have a weak lawn.

Bare patches should be reseeded with good quality grass seed, after loosening the soil.

Your lawn should get three doses of fertilizer through the summer season -- in April, June and September, Insecticide should be sprayed in May and again in mid-June to control insects like the chinch bug.

Prevalent in Halton Hills, the chinch bug is found mainly in mature, older lawns. It shows up in late summer to nibble on your grass. The weeds aren't to its taste, so you virtually end up with a lawn full of weeds.

A licensed pesticide applicator, Mr. Dickinson can help you keep chinch bugs and other pests that gobble up your lawn under control.

For more helpful hints and professional help with your lawn, contact Mr. Dickinson at 877-7143.

for a greener more beautiful

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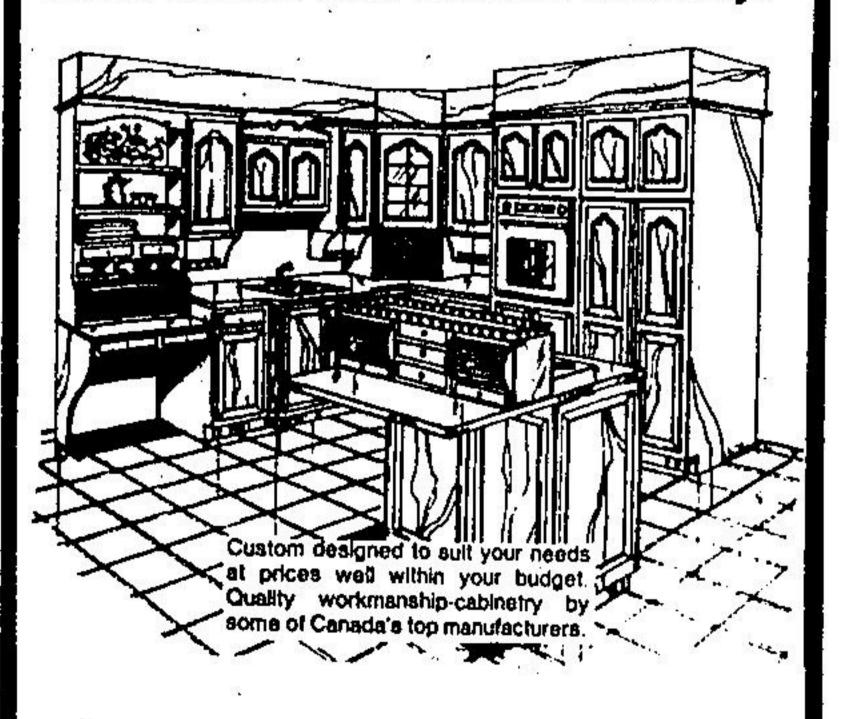
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