

A little knowledge goes a long way in your yard

As summer starts to come to an end weeds in your lawn are getting ready to make an appearance one last time for the season. Stop them in their tracks by making their home an inhospitable one. An ounce of prevention in early fall will go a long way this season and well into next spring.

Maintaining a Thick, Healthy Lawn to Crowd Out Weeds

Regular feedings of lawn fertilizer throughout the growing season help to create a thick healthy lawn. A thick lawn crowds out weeds, reducing their chances of establishing a foothold in your turf. "Another great preventative measure comes from applying corn gluten to your lawn" says Glenn Martin, Senior Marketing Manager Healthy Lawns and Sustainability at Scotts Canada. Corn Gluten has pre-emergent herbicidal properties. That means that if applied prior to weeds appearing in your lawn, the corn gluten will prevent weed seeds from germinating. There are a number of corn gluten products on the market today. The key is to look for products marked 100% corn gluten and that are in pelletized form (not ground corn meal) so they can be

easily applied to your lawn with a spreader like Scotts TurfBuilder with Weed Prevent according to Martin.

Corn Gluten

Corn gluten prevents the germination of dandelion and large crabgrass seeds by releasing amino/dipeptides (proteins) into the soil, starving the roots of water. Apply when the soil is moist and when rain is forecasted within 2 days of application. Remember corn gluten won't eliminate the weeds you have but will prevent new ones from sprouting. It also stops grass seeds from germinating so never overseed your lawn and apply corn gluten at the same time. Corn Gluten is a great way to keep ahead of your weeds before they become a problem.

Calibrate It

New or old, you must properly calibrate your drop spreader before first use every spring. Your drop spreader's calibration may not be at the ideal level as a result of wear and tear, factory setting, or user modification. This may result in more or less than the recommended amount of product being dispensed on your lawn.

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