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Split Method Best Control For Quack Grass In Corn

Planning on turning those sod fields into corn? You can start your quack grass eradication program this fall, says Dr. John Bandeen, Crop Science Department, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

He recommends that four pounds of active atrazine per acre will kill quack grass, and the best method is a split application of this chemical. "On hay or pasture fields known to be infested with quack grass," Dr. Bandeen advises, "spray two pounds active atrazine per acre any time from September to mid-October; wait one week to one month, then plow. Next spring, work the soil, plant the corn and spray on two more pounds of atrazine on each acre. This second application can be pre-emergent to the corn or, with a water solution or in an oil-water emulsion, it can be post-emergent. The oil-water emulsion will give a faster burn-off on any new quack grass growth under dry soil conditions, but the water treatment will eventually kill this plant."

The first application can also be sprayed on the sod in early spring after quack grass growth has started. Depending on the

season, April 10 to 25 are the usual application dates. While this spring treatment is equally effective, wet spring soil conditions can make fall treatments more convenient to apply.

Splitting the treatment is important. It results in a longer period of atrazine residue in the soil, ensuring more effective eradication. Plowing after the first treatment also places stress on the quack grass, thus aiding in eradication. Yet, other advantages exist. Preplant atrazine (any time in fall or spring) hinders the quack grass from competing with the corn seedling; post-emergence treatment not only kills the quack grass which escaped preplant treatment, but controls annual weeds, too. "Unfortunately," Dr. Bandeen relates, "too many farmers use a single post-emergence treatment. The corn has already suffered from the early competition, and by early July, the quack grass shoots have probably removed 50 to 60 pounds of nitrogen and 30 to 49 pounds of potassium per acre — all lost to the corn."

In areas that have been in corn and have become infested with quack grass, atrazine at two pounds active per acre can be applied to quack grass foliage in the fall after silage corn is removed or soon after the corn has been picked, if the crop is early. If the corn is harvested late in the fall, then the first atrazine application should be in the spring. Another variation involves plowing under the stalks either in the fall or in the spring, and applying the first two pounds of atrazine to the resulting quack grass foliage. However, the first two pounds could also be applied just prior to the last cultivation during seedbed preparation. This way, the first application is incorporated into the soil and the second application can be applied pre-emergent or post-emergent to the corn in water or an oil-water emulsion. This method, though, tends to be more dependent on good soil moisture conditions and the quack grass may not die so quickly — especially under dry

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Do-it-yourself Guide To Home Landscaping

Now that fall planting time is almost here, many homeowners are thinking of landscaping new homes or altering existing landscaping areas. Horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture say that a little forethought and planning will help to avoid costly mistakes. Here are some tips that will help to guide do-it-yourself landscapers.

Prepare the area for planting with a minimum depth of 18 inches, and, if possible dig in some organic matter such as peat moss, well-rotted manure, or compost. Select hardy nursery stock adapted to your particular location. Space for future growth with a minimum of 3 feet between centers. Study sun and shade aspects. Consider the ultimate height of nursery stock. Arrange material for texture and color effect.

When contemplating planting, remember all trees, shrubs, lawn areas, and flowers in a landscape should fit into the overall design, performing a particular function. Before placing a plant, decide on its purpose — shade, privacy, accent, or screening.

Many of these ideas are incorporated in the Department of Horticulture gardens at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. A landscaped area has

WITNESS BLASTS "SMART ALECK" LAWYER

An angry witness voiced his feelings to Magistrate Russell Pearce on Friday when a case, in which he was involved, was withdrawn.

The witness, whose identity is unknown, was the driver of a car that was hit by William Woodhouse of Aurora. Woodhouse, as a result, was charged by Markham Township Police with failing to yield the right of way.

However, the solicitor for the defense noted a discrepancy in the wording on the summons and the information, and on those grounds, argued the point. Acting Crown, P.C. Bob Hadden, reluctantly agreed to the mistake and withdrew the charge.

"I came here to see justice," said the witness, "and this is what happens. It's always the case when you get a smart-aleck lawyer."

The man was dismissed by Magistrate Pearce, with a warning about speaking out in court.

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No doubt the elderly cave man bored his friends and relatives by harking back to the "good old days."

STOUFFVILLE DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT CLASSES

Night Classes will be offered to the public in the Stouffville District High School on Tuesday evenings commencing October 5th. Classes will continue during the Fall and Spring term for a total of 24 nights and are held from 8 to 10 p.m. Classes will be held the first night, and registration will begin at 7:30 p.m. October 5th. A fee of \$10. for the 24 nights is payable in full on registration and is not refundable.

Classes offered and instructors for each are as follows:

- Senior Art — Mr. G. Otto
- Junior Art — Mrs. Caroline Ogilvy
- Senior Sewing — Mrs. Hazel Peacock
- Junior Sewing — Mrs. H. Mills
- Dramatics — Mr. Rex Sevenoaks
- Leatherwork — Mrs. Mary Baker
- Welding (Electric & Acetylene) — Mr. Walter Smith
- Bookkeeping — Mr. J. W. McBride
- Typewriting — Mrs. Joyce Spensley
- Woodworking — Mr. J. R. Hammond
- Physical Recreation for Men — Mr. J. H. Rehill
- Physical Recreation for Women — Mrs. J. W. McBride
- Conversational French — Mrs. J. Waite

CLASSES IN OTHER SUBJECTS will be considered if there is sufficient demand and providing a suitable instructor can be obtained. Those interested in other classes should telephone the High School at 640-1433 as soon as possible. A minimum of 15 applicants should be secured for each class. The School Board reserves the right to decide which classes will be given.

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