

The Turf Store Tips and gardening

Early spring offers one important opportunity...a chance to protect your lawn against crabgrass throughout the year.

Crabgrass germinates here in our area in early to mid-April. The soil temperature needs to be about 55° F in order for this to happen.

Pre-emergent herbicides provide an opportunity for one to gain control of a crabgrass invasion before it starts.

Pre-emergent herbicides kill the germinating weed seed. Application timing is very important and the products need to be applied **before** the weed germinates. Once the weed germinates, pre-emergents have no control over the establishing weed.

Pre-emergent herbicide application for annual weed control coincides with the timing of spring seeding. Almost all of these materials will also kill germinating cool-season grasses, as they cannot tell a good seed from a bad one. Tupersan is the only crabgrass pre-emergent that can be used at the time of seeding.

There are a number of different products available for pre-emergent crabgrass control. Chemical and organic fertilizers are available incorporated with a chemical crabgrass pre-emergent. You can also purchase the pre-emergent herbicide in a granular form, without the fertilizer.

These products should be applied within a few days

after mowing and delay mowing again for several days after application. Aeration of the treated area is discouraged as this may disrupt the chemical barrier. Improved weed control may result if treated turf is watered or receives significant rainfall within a few days after application.

The label is a useful source of information and should always be read thoroughly before application.

PRE-EMERGENT HERBICIDE/FERTILIZER COMBINATION:

MARCH 15 – MARCH 30

Apply a professional pre-emergent herbicide/fertilizer combination over your entire lawn. The fertilizer will “kick-start” your lawn while the pre-emergent herbicide will control crabgrass and other annual/perennial grasses.

**RECOMMEND:
14-0-2 w/Barricade or equal**



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