

Stress Use of Herbicide To Eliminate Quackgrass

Reports from the University of Wisconsin indicate that while quackgrass is tougher to eliminate than most other weeds, the answer to its control lies in a split application of a herbicide this Spring.

The careful selection and application of the proper herbicide is all important to the success of this program. Dr. K. P. Buchholz of the University's Agronomy staff states that while many weed killers check growth in quackgrass, they do not fully destroy the root reserves which support new growth and thus do not really eliminate the problem.

In states where persistent quackgrass is a problem—Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, northern Indiana and northern Illinois—it can be effectively controlled with Atrazine. He recommends a split application of the herbicide during the early spring months, first as a pre-plow application and fol-

lowed by a planting-time treatment.

A three-step program should be followed.

1. As early as it's possible to get on the land this Spring, apply a broadcast spray of 2½ pounds of Atrazine 80W in 20 gallons of water per acre. Dr. Buchholz recommends that application be made prior to April 1 if possible.
2. Wait about a month after the application before plowing. Then plow and prepare the seedbed in the normal manner.
3. At corn planting time (or after planting until weeds are 1½" high) apply another broadcast spray of 2½ pounds of Atrazine 80W. Dr. Buchholz likes to aim for no later than a May 10 planting date in his area. This split application not only gives top-notch control of the quack but also gives control of most annual broadleaf weeds and grasses through the growing season.

Dr. Buchholz points out that it's important to get plenty of water per acre. He says that it has been his experience that between 20 and 30 gallons per acre have given the most consistent results.

It is also important to remember that on corn land that has received this split application totaling 5 pounds of Atrazine 80W, the land should be plowed into corn the following year.

If the farmer is going onto land that has not been cropped for several years—soil bank land—the instructions estimate that a heavy litter may have accumulated. Under these conditions, it is especially important that there be sufficient rainfall to carry the herbicide down through the trash to the weed germinating zone. When the soil contains a high concentration of organic matter or has a heavy manure cover.

Some farmers, particularly those who fall plow, have had excellent results with applying the first Atrazine spray before the fall plowing and the rest at planting time the following spring. Dr. Buchholz says, however, that the two spring applications of Atrazine provide just as good quackgrass control.

"You can't see any difference at all," he stated. "For most effective control, the first application of the Atrazine should be made about a month in advance of plowing to weaken and kill the quack before planting time."

Check Banks For Financing of Landscaping

Anyone who owns a home can finance a landscaping of the grounds by applying for a loan at a bank. Under Title I, of the Federal Housing Act, government-insured loans can be made up to \$3,500 for landscaping.

Most large nurseries will arrange for financing at local banks if the home owner desires it.

The best procedure is to find out how much the cost of landscaping will be from a nurseryman or landscape architect, then apply to a bank for a loan.

It is preferable to have a plan for the landscaping, if any considerable sum is to be spent. As a rule of thumb, a first-rate landscaping job should not cost less than five percent of the value of the home.

Most large nurseries can be added to a mortgage in many cases if the same bank handles both the loan and the mortgage. This has been true generally for Savings and Loan Associations as well.

Know How to Buy to Save

Ever wonder about the amount of meat to plan for different occasions? In general, a one-quarter pound serving of boneless meat—ground meat, rolled roasts, boned roasts, stew meat and liver—should be adequate. Better allow one-half pound per serving of bone-in meat, that is, bone-in roasts, steaks, chops, and ham. And, plan on three-quarters to one pound per serving of bony meat—short ribs, spare ribs, and lamb shanks.

Observer GARDEN PAGE

★ Page 19-C Wednesday, April 27, 1966

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Front View Starting Point For Landscaping

What does your home look like to your neighbors? In a recent survey of areas where homes are well landscaped, most residents felt that even one neglected home could spoil a whole neighborhood.

It is not difficult to landscape the entrance to a home, providing the homeowner will continuously look at it from the curb and see what needs to be planted in accordance with his own creative instincts, or what other neighbors have done in the area.

In some areas, a homeowner will have a lawn facing the street, perhaps a low hedge along the sidewalk and a driveway to the garage.

In such an "average planting," one should stand on the sidewalk in the exact middle of the property and face his house.

All large trees should be planted outside of imaginary lines to the corners of the house. This prevents the house from being dwarfed or obscured by large trees.

Smaller trees such as dogwood or crepe myrtle may be planted inside such lines, close to the house.

Shrubs usually are planted in curved beds close to the house, with taller shrubs at house corners, flowering and evergreen shrubs should be intermingled to provide contrast.

Foliage likewise should provide contrast. Taxus, or yew, is the deepest green of all coniferous evergreen shrubs; junipers may have a bluish cast; while arbutus may be lighter green or golden.

Some excellent flowering evergreens for entrance planting include the rhododendrons and azaleas, although there are many more such as the hollies and pyracanthas and cotoneasters.

The southern climates abound in lovely camellias, hibiscus and oleanders.

Beds of annual plants often are used near entrances. These include the petalums, or geraniums, petunias, dwarf snapdragons, marigolds, and numerous other plants.

As with all landscaping, good taste is required. It is recommended by the American Association of Nurserymen that a plan be prepared to make the home entrance most attractive.

Name 3 Ways To Beautify Community

How does one go about making a home, a neighborhood or a community more beautiful?

1. Try to have all local groups cooperate by centering service clubs, garden clubs, others.
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H. P. Quadland, beautification expert for the American Association of Nurserymen, makes the following suggestions:

"Beautification, to be most valuable, should be planned. Whether you are beautifying your home grounds, neighborhood, a street, or a whole community, the best thing to do is to make a preliminary survey.

"Where, for example, are your home grounds or community ugly? They actually may not be exceptionally ugly. Your goal may simply be to make the area more beautiful."

The steps to achieve this include:

1. A survey of the area. Check locations where a flowering tree or shrub that has lovely flowers may "set off" the location and help to beautify the whole area.

Not only flowers but leaves, bark and berries are beautiful at various times of the year.

Plantings should provide for an attractive effect at all seasons.

2. Select the best sites to be beautified, especially those

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