

# TIMELY TURF TIPS *October 2005*

Most of us have received significant amounts of rainfall recently, which brings up two very important points on as winter approaches. The **first** is the fact that if precipitation lessens significantly and/or ceases, it's still *very important to keep watering* your turf, perennials, shrubs, evergreens and trees until the ground freezes up ~ *especially if you have new plantings*. **Secondly**, since it's likely that your lawn has grown at a much faster rate than the previous two drier months, it's important to keep up the maintenance until a hard frost occurs. This means not only continuing to mow (and giving your lawn a final "low mow" to lessen the occurrence of snow mold in Spring) but also raking to prevent too heavy a mulch layer for the same reason.

As we've mentioned in previous October Newsletters, **now** is the **PERFECT TIME** to review your yard and all of its attributes/detriments. Note the areas that will need extra care next year as well as problems that can still be attacked before winter. For instance, **problem spots** from animal urine or salt damage can be tackled by applying **Gypsum**; and there's still time for broad-leaf control provided temperatures maintain at 45 degrees\* for 24 hours. **Perennial weed** control can be gained using **Killzall**. Weed-Free Zone, Speed-Zone and Brushmaster are among the other products recommended depending on your unique situation. For more information on tackling specific problems like **buckthorn**, you can log on to <http://www.extension.umn.edu/projects/yardandgarden/ygbriefs/h464buckthorncontrol.html>. Please note that the DNR link listed on this website is *incorrect*. The **correct site** is as follows: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/woody/buckthorn/index.html>

This may also be the time for you to apply fall fertilizer. If you **DID NOT** apply in September, **APPLY NOW**. If you **DID** apply in September, wait until the **END OF OCTOBER** or **BEFORE THE GROUND FREEZES** to reapply. Take advantage of the coupon below for savings on our excellent Fall fertilizer:



**40# Bag**  
Hugo Feed  
Mill Brand  
**25-0-15**  
Fertilizer

**\$100 OFF** PER BAG

(Limit 10 bags) Expires 11/20/05

Other fall lawn projects may involve **dormant seeding**. A key component of this activity this time of year is to **remember to use a specific crabgrass preventer next spring** in order to allow the germination of chosen grass seed without promoting unwanted growth. This specific product is not readily available at most outlets, so be sure to **check back with the Hugo Feed Mill in the spring**. **Overseeding** shaded areas can be done after fall leaf pickup has occurred, and then you would **NOT** want to **APPLY ANY crabgrass prevention** in spring.

**TIMELY TURF TIP:**  
Mow your grass shorter before Winter and thoroughly rake/mulch to lessen the chance of snow mold in Spring.

As we close our Timely Turf Tips Newsletters for 2005, we want to thank you for your patronage to Hugo Feed Mill and your continued attention to our Newsletter. We have undergone some employee changes recently and would like to welcome Sara, Joe and Terri to our midst while wishing Theresa the best of luck with her future family! We look forward to our first Newsletter of 2006 - have a great Fall and Winter!

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