DEANS SERVICES Buzz
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Seasonal Weed Strategy

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As a reminder to our lawn program customers, we're now in our 2nd month of our new premium weed application. We've seen great results so far, and wanted to answer some of the questions we've gotten about the new product and what to expect next.

What Product is Being Used?

The product is called CelsiusXTRA. It's spe-cially formulated to target cool and warm season weeds.

What Makes This Application Better?

The application is more effective because it has three active ingredients that target a wider variety of weeds. With winter weeds on their way out, and spring weeds just beginning, it's the perfect time to apply a product that can target them all — including some species of crabgrass. This prepares your lawn for better weed control all year.

Is There Any Charge for This Application?

This application is free as part of your lawn fertilization program (if you're not yet a Deans customer, we have a special promo below).

Why Are Results Delayed?

Herbicides travel slowly through plants via a process called translocation. Even before you see the effects, a lethal (or *phytotoxic*) dose is working. This natural process works with the plant's metabolism, so it takes time for effects to show.

Why Can't it be Reapplied Between Treatments?

As State-Certified applicators, Deans must adhere to the legal restrictions of the label and the EPA. In the case of Celsius, reapplication within several weeks is prohibited (this also protects the health of your lawn, as we'll learn next). And don't worry, any weeds that emerge or remain will be retreated at our next visit.

Can Another Type of Herbicide Be Applied Between Treatments?

When herbicides are applied, the surrounding turf is affected too. This effect, known as 'dieback,' is minor and the turf will recover. However, applying another herbicide before the turf is given a chance to rebound can cause permanent damage. Just as with medication, administering the remedy as prescribed will prevent serious side effects.

Are There Drawbacks to This Product?

Although CelsiusXTRA is more expensive than some other products, we feel that by investing in a program that targets more weeds, we'll have fewer weeds later and continue to have happy customers!

Until then, we'll monitor your lawn's progress with each visit and carefully reapply as we do. We appreciate the patience you've shown as we deliver results in the manner best for your home and property!

APPETITE FOR CONSTRUCTION

Juliana K. Shead | Termite K9 Caretaker

We're all familiar with animals that carry protective shelters. Turtles, snails, and hermit crabs are common examples. But there's a lesser known critter that's even craftier – since they also *build* their own shelter; and if you look closely, you may find one right in your backyard.

The bagworm can be found lurking in shrubs and trees throughout the eastern United States. These inch-long insect begin engineering their home by spinning a silken thread to create a cocoon-like bag around themselves.

BY BUILDING WITH MATERIAL FOUND NEARBY, THE CAMOUFLAGED BAGWORM IS ABLE TO ATTACK PLANTS UNDETECTED.

After the foundation work is complete the design stage begins. Gathering tiny bits of wood and plants, the bagworm diligently glues each piece to its sticky shroud using adhesive silk. By building with materials from nearby plants, they'll remain camouflaged and undetected by predators.

Despite its name, the bagworm is actually a caterpillar. The male will eventually emerge as a moth, while the female will remain wingless in her cozy cocoon laying up to 1,000 eggs. This begins a new generation of bagworms ready to build their own homes... and feed voraciously as they do.

AS HUNGRY BAGWORMS FEAST, SHRUBS BECOME WEAKENED AND THEIR DAMAGE BECOMES VISIBLE.

If you're noticing discoloration on your shrubs, check around the branches. If you noticed any 1-2" clusters of seemingly harmless twigs, you may have bagworms.

Bagworms can be clipped out with shears and discarded, but this requires some diligent hunting. If you have Deans Shrub Care program, you'll be protected from these and a host of other pests. If not, give us a call today and kick those bags to the curb!

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