



grub control

SIGNS

Grub damage will show up as large patches of dead grass in the lawn. When the dead grass in these areas is tugged, it will easily pull out of the ground due to the absence of roots.

DETECTIONS

To be sure the damage is actually being caused by grubs, some investigation will be necessary. Go to the edge of the affected area where the grass is just beginning to die and turn over a shovel full of dirt. Grubs will be easy to spot. They are about an inch long, “C” shaped, white to tan colored insect. If you have five or more grubs per square foot, you have a grub problem that will need to be addressed.

MINIMIZE THE IMMEDIATE DAMAGE

Grubs do not directly kill your lawn. Dehydration kills your lawn. Grubs feed on the root system of your lawn. As the root system gets shorter it becomes increasingly difficult for the grass to draw enough water. Eventually the grass dies due to its inability to draw water from the soil. A quick solution to at least slow the damage is to water your lawn.

CONTROL THE GRUBS

To control the grubs there are several courses of action. The best action depends on the severity of your grub damage and the time of year.

Moderate to Significant Damage – Early Spring/Fall

In spring (mid-April through May) and Fall (mid-September through October) **Bayer Advanced 24-Hour Grub Killer** can be used to control the grub population. It can be effective, but should be thought of as a damage reducer, not a cure.

Little to Significant Damage – Summer

One of the best products that has quick results and can also be a long-term cure is **Merit**. Merit is the active ingredient in **Bayer Advanced Season-long Grub Control**. An application of Merit administered around the 4th of July will effectively control the grub population in your lawn for one full life cycle of the insect. If you apply Merit yearly in July you can keep your lawn grub free. Applying Merit earlier in the spring or later in the fall can result in a diminished effectiveness of this product. Timing is very important.

Little Damage/Preventative/Long Term/Organic

If you are in the beginning stages of grub damage caused by Japanese Beetle Grubs or if you have previously used Merit and you are looking for a long-term approach, **Milky Spore** is an excellent and organic solution. Once established, Milky Spore ensures long-term protection for your lawn against grubs. The spore attacks the larval stage of Japanese Beetle grubs and actually multiplies inside the infected grub. When the infected grub dies, it releases billions of new spores into the soil that can infect other grubs. Once all the grubs are destroyed, the spores will remain dormant in the soil for up to 20 years waiting for new grub populations to infest. The only draw back is that it takes about two years from the first application to effectively destroy a grub population. The first year you limit the number of grubs in your lawn, the second year you destroy the grubs in your lawn. Milky Spore is also not very effective on European Chafer Beetle Grubs.

REMEMBER:

- *Always read and follow the directions on any packaged control product.
- *As always, please consult a Bordine's Garden Store employee if you have more specific questions.

