

What's New with Pure Prairie



Pure Prairie Organics

June 30, 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1

Greetings Gardners!

Hi everybody!

Here is Pure Prairie Organics' first e-news edition for the week of June 30th (Fourth of July). It's getting hot! We are dry here and the grass is quickly becoming brown but up north in Wauconda they are still green and the same down near I-80, Joliet. The storms have been going around us. Larry Acker (3 Fforecasts.com) says we should get a decent rain around July 13 although we don't know if the coverage will be all over. The next rain isn't forecasted until early August, then nothing thru September. Quite dry.

The grass is a perfect color brown right now and we should water about every two weeks to hold it at this level of brown. If the lawn goes to straw brown it is close to death and we need to be careful. Tom Skilling says we may get 30 days over 90+ degree temps in the last part of July and during Aug. That's a lot!

Some trees are losing their leaves right now and this is because of dry stress. In the spring we usually have good rains and the trees put out lots of leaves and when reality hits they realize they need to cut back. Birches are especially guilty of this. However crab apples are losing their leaves because of apple scab disease.

The clover looks like it is almost finished flowering and I see the heat loving weeds coming on.

Mostly that means crab grass and the viny bindweed.

Congratulations to those of you who have a linden tree; it is flowering now and the fragrance is terrific. Bees love it too, but they are very docile and gentle so you do not need to worry about stings. The aggressive ones come later in August. (not a true bee but they look like one!)

Grub talk. There are 300 different kinds of grubs but if we say grubs, it usually means the one that eats the lawns in Aug. The mom is a June bug and should finish laying her eggs in the next week or so. Grub-ex is not a poison but an appetite suppressant and should be put down sometime soon. Putting it on grubs after they have gotten older doesn't work so well. We have to switch over to a poison. Grubs attack the parts of the lawn that are under stress and those are the only areas that need treatment. For example, we rarely find them in shady areas. More on this as the season goes on.

That's all I have to say right now... e-mail any questions you have and I can answer them in the future!

Happy Fourth of July and we'll talk soon!

Bill

Pure Prairie Organics
P.O. Box 1458, Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 688-5180 www.pure-prairie-organics.com