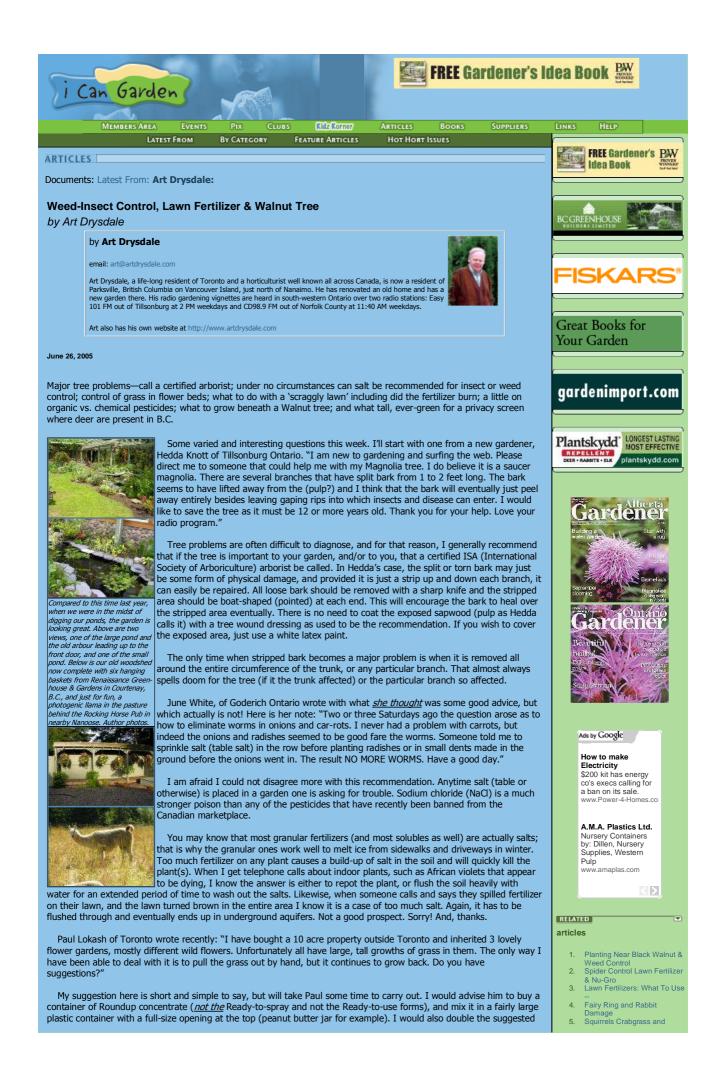
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mixing ratio (twice the amount of product to the amount of water) and then get an old paint brush and paint the solution on all parts of the grass, at the same time being extremely careful not to get any solution on the flowers he wishes to keep. If it happens that some of the product accidentally gets applied or splashed onto his plants, it is a simple matter to pull off the affected leaves.

The Roundup will kill only the plants whose leaves you coat, and the killing action will extend to the tip of the root. There are only a few plants on which Roundup is not effective: Horsetail (*Equisetum*), Goutweed (*Aegopodium podagraria* 'Variegata' and Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*).

Deborah Sheppard, also from Ontario wrote: "Love your show--very informative. If you get a chance to respond; I am a good gardener but my lawn looks scraggly. I have checked and there are no bugs. I try, I try--I fertilize as directed, I reseed, I water properly, I mow carefully at the right heights. I recently tried Scotts Turf Builder with the spreader as directed and my lawn is burned in several large patches--it's not supposed to do that. Suggestions?

Well Deborah, it's hard to believe that any modern fertilizer would burn in the spring season, unless it was piled on the lawn and the granules smothered the turf! The 'burning' is more likely from another cause--chinch bugs or other soil pests/grubs, or a salt build-up such as I've just described above. It could also be that you have a mixture of non-compatible grasses in your lawn, which may include one of the bentgrasses. Since the cutting height for most grasses is not suitable for bentgrasses, it tends to grow "sideways" and takes on a yellow colour. If that is the problem, you'll have to kill off the bent using three or four applications (once a week at least) of a 2,4-D/Mecoprop/Dicamba product (such as Killex or WeedOut).

Or you can use spot treatments of Roundup, and a few days later, re-seed the dead spots; but I wouldn't try that un-til late August.

Sheila Lenes of Calgary wrote a couple of weeks ago with an unusual problem: "Art, We have an industrial strength composting toilet and currently have a fly infestation. The company, Phoenix Composting Toilets, has recommended that we use an organic pesticide--Pyrethrum. Does Doktor Doom--Residual Insecticidal Spray have this compound and is it going to work? Thanks."

Doktor Doom's Residual Insecticidal Spray is the product I would use because its effectiveness will last at least two months. It is a Permethrin product which is actually a chemical copy of the naturally-occurring Pyrethrum. It is quite safe, and does not bare a poison symbol on the aerosol spray cans; but if you wish to stick to the organic Pyrethrum, Doktor Doom has that as well, under the name Botanics.

William Bissett, in Dundas Ontario wrote with a familiar question: "I have a very tall (approx 40') Walnut tree in my yard. It is so tall the underneath of the tree is quite sunny, and I would like to plant some kind of flower garden underneath the tree, but understand that Walnuts release a toxin that can be deadly to some (all) flowers/shrubs within the drip circle. Every couple of years, the lawn underneath the tree is killed off and I'd like to put something (a flower/perennial garden) in that area that is more tolerant of the Walnut tree. Any suggestions? I Listen to your show on AM 740, and find it very interesting and informative."

First, what you have heard is generally correct. However, most of our common grasses (bluegrass for instance) is tolerant of the juglone toxin, so a lawn should do well if it has reasonable sun. As to flowers, there is quite a long list of perennials that tolerate juglone as well. For example, in perennials you could choose from daffodils, dog tooth violets and primulas (the latter will prefer some shade) for spring effect; and hostas (they should do well in that location), heucheras, Iris and lilies for spring, summer and fall. Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) will grow well if you want an alternate groundcover, and shrubs such as *Forsythia*, lilacs, dwarf burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), honeysuckles, mock-orange and *Viburnum* perform well. I trust that is a sufficient list.

The D. J. Vanderkooi family, from somewhere in British Columbia wrote as follows: "We have recently built a house on acreage that is often frequented by deer. Our house faces a fairly busy road and for privacy we would like to plant a fast growing, deer resistant hedge. We've heard that deer don't like Western Red cedars. Is this true? What would you recommend? Thank you."

My response was as follows: "You didn't say in what area you are living/gardening, but I assume it is the lower mainland or on Vancouver Island.

"You are correct that deer generally do NOT attack (eat) western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*); however, unless you have a great space, they generally should not be planted as a hedge. They can be pruned annually to keep them in bounds, but given a couple of years with no pruning they will take off for the sky. The ultimate height can easily be 60 metres or 180 feet!

"If you have the space, they may be your answer.

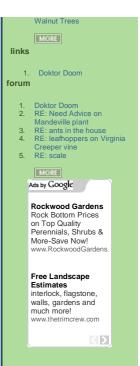
"Another possibility is the Leyland cypress (Cupressocyparis Ieylandii) which grows even faster than the western red cedar, but not nearly as tall. It's maximum height is usually considered to be 16-20 metres (50-60 feet). It can easily achieve a metre of growth in the second and subsequent years. Some people do not like these because they are subject to a couple of diseases, particularly Coryneum canker which is more prevalent in severely trimmed trees (i.e. hedges).

"A couple of the plants I would consider are cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) which many people detest as a hedge because of its "rampant' growth, and Portugal laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*) which is slower growing and more tidy. I personally like the cherry laurel for a tall hedge, so do consider it.

MEMBER LOGIN

"I guess I need to know more about the space if I am to offer further advice."

The Ronnie Fund Working For Quality Village Life in Kenya



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