European Chafer Control In Canada & Update On The Value Of Neonics

European Chafer Control In Canada Now Very Difficult Due To The Reckless Banning Of Effective Chemicals, And An Update On The Value Of Neonics

by Art Drysdale

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In 1940, in the State of New York, the European Chafer was officially identified as a turfgrass pest. It was accidentally introduced from the Orient and Europe.

Forty years later, in 1980, it reached the Niagara Peninsula in South-Western Ontario. Its rampage continued across the Greater Toronto Area throughout the 1980s and 90s. In 1997, William H Gathercole, one of the foremost turfgrass experts in the nation, first reported its spread in Montréal, Québec. By 2001, this insect had also spread across several states of the North-Eastern U.S. In 2001, Mr. Gathercole also first identified the insect in the Pacific North-West, in New Westminster, British Columbia, while local experts and entomologists were somehow baffled about an insect pest that had created a well-documented ecological disaster in urban landscapes throughout Eastern North America.

Additionally, Mr. Gathercole exhaustively investigated the introduction of this pest into British Columbia and Québec. In both cases, the European Chafer was imported by contaminated sod products originating from grower locations in the Province of Ontario. With arbitrary pesticide bans, such as the one recklessly imposed in

municipalities like New Westminster and Burnaby, green spaces invariably become chafer infested and dangerous garbage dumps.

Residents of municipalities like New Westminster and Burnaby had better get used to living with garbage dump green space, since it is impossible to control adequately, damaging pests like European Chafer, without the use of conventional insect control products. Recommending entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides for controlling damaging insects of turf is miss-guided and wrong! It would be better to do nothing rather than use nematodes. Entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides are not viable, efficacious, practical, or economical green alternatives to replace conventional insect control products.

Entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides cannot be consistently considered as true alternatives to conventional insecticides, since the insect pests are often only suppressed, and not controlled. Laboratory and field tests tend to indicate that the best nematode species are only marginally effective in controlling insect infestations [and then only when applied to the soil, not on turf where the nematodes simply are not able to penetrate the thatch in most grass].

On the other hand, conventional pest control products fully and effectively control insect pests. In fact, conventional insect control products, such as Merit (imidacloprid), are deemed safer than entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides. For more information about nematode insecticides, go to the reports at the following Pesticide Truths Web-Page... http://wp.me/P1jq40-5ai . These people are the National Organization Responding Against huje that conspire to destroy the green space and other industries. As a non-profit and independent organization, they are dedicated to reporting about non-expert pesticide hating fanatics, as well as the work of respected and highly rated experts who promote environmental realism and pesticide truths.