Meehan's Brookside LAWN SERVICE

Grub Infestation



What is a Grub?

White Grubs are the larvae of various beetles. The beetles lay their eggs in late spring/early summer. Grubs are "C" shaped, white or off white in color. It is not unusual to find a grub or two while planting and working in the lawn.



Damage and Signs of Activity

The Grubs feed on organic material in the root zone of the turf, severing roots as they feed. This causes the turf to pull up easily, like new sod or loose carpet. The turf will wilt and die. The visual appearance of drought stress and grub activity are the same, therefore easily mistaken for one another. At times, skunks and raccons will dig for grubs and cause considerable damage in the process.



When to Treat

Ideally turf damage will be prevented with a planned Grub Prevention or Brookside B.A.G (Billbug, Armyworm, Grub) Prevention. This must be applied prior to having an infestation. Once the problem exists a curative application for grubs is necessary. Both preventions and curative applications must be watered in thoroughly. Although grubs may be present during the spring they are not doing any harm and should not be treated with a curative treatment. A Grub Prevention or Brookside B.A.G (Billbug, Armyworm, Grub) Prevention should be scheduled to protect the lawn from the next generation of grubs.



What to Expect

Once grubs have been treated with a curative it will take them 2-4 weeks to die. They will stop eating shortly after treatment is watered in. The treatment will not fix the damage to the turf. Proper watering will encourage the turf to grow out the damage. Reseeding may be necessary in severe cases. When the grubs are large it may take two applications to kill them all. It may be impossible to kill grubs in lawns with excessive thatch (1/2" or more). This makes prevention a much better option.



Prevention

Part of your lawn service with Meehan's Lawn Service is curative grub control. This is to kill the grubs once they are found, usually once the damage has occurred. Fortunately, a Grub Prevention or Brookside B.A.G (Billbug, Armyworm, Grub) Prevention Treatment is available that can be applied during spring and early summer while the beetles are in the egg laying stage and before damage occurs. The Grub Prevention is taken to the roots of the grass, turning the roots into a deadly meal for grubs, but doesn't harm people, pets, or other plants. The benefit of the Meehan's B.A.G. (Billbug, Armyworm, Grub) Prevention, is that it provides protection from grubs and also billbugs, armyworms and other insects.



BONUS TIPS FOR A HEALTHY, SHADE-TOLERANT LAWN

MOW HIGHER
Keep your mower blades high to promote deeper roots and help retain moisture.

THIN TREE CANOPY
More light means healthier grass. Remove unnecessary branches to open the canopy.

REDUCE THATCH
Core aerate to reduce thatch buildup. Keep thatch under 1/2 inch for best results.

USE THE RIGHT SEED
Choose shade-tolerant grass seed blends for the best growth and color in shady areas.

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