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EC1569 Control White Grubs in Lawns

Robert E. Roselle

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, rroselle1@unl.edu

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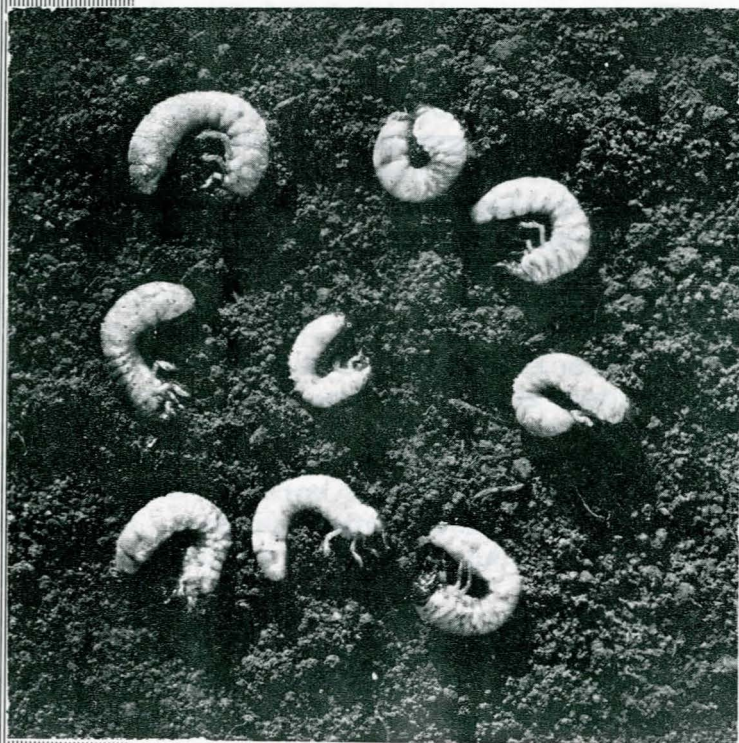
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WHITE GRUBS

In Lawns



EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COOPERATING
W. V. LAMBERT, DIRECTOR

CONTROL WHITE GRUBS IN LAWNS

By Robert E. Roselle.

White grubs, or so-called grubworms, are larvae of June beetles. The adult June beetle females deposit eggs in sod during late spring and early summer. The grubs, shortly after hatching, start to feed on the roots of grass. Large infestations may completely destroy the root system, resulting in large areas of dead lawn.

There are many kinds of June beetles. The one most important to lawns in Nebraska is the annual June beetle, which completes its life cycle in one year. A lawn may become infested in June or July, the damage increasing as the grubs develop throughout the fall. In winter the grubs are deeper in the soil. They feed again in the spring, and emerge as adults in June. Other important species have a three-year life cycle, but overlapping broods result in adult emergences each year in certain localities.

Presence of the grubs is indicated by areas of dead and stunted grass. When dead areas are examined, the grubs are generally found under the sod, which is loose because the root system has been destroyed. If the dead grass still has normal roots, the trouble is likely due to disease or other causes. Heavily infested turf can be rolled back like a carpet.

White grubs may be controlled by applying one of several insecticides to the lawn, and then washing the insecticide into the soil. The following table lists the insecticides recommended and the quantities of each to use:

INSECTICIDE	AMOUNT FOR 1000 SQUARE FEET
Chlordane, 45% emulsion concentrate	1 pint
Chlordane, 5% dust	5 to 10 pounds

Aldrin, 25% emulsion concentrate.....	5 ounces
Aldrin, 2 1/2 granular or dust	3 pounds
Diieldrin, 5% granular or dust	1 - 1/2 pounds
Arsenate of lead.....	10 pounds

Emulsion concentrates should be mixed with at least ten gallons of water for each 1000 square feet treated. They may be applied with a power sprayer, or with a three gallon pressure sprayer. Dusts should be evenly applied with either a duster or lawn fertilizer cart. Granular forms should be applied with a lawn fertilizer cart. After applications are made, WATER THE CHEMICAL INTO THE SOIL THOROUGHLY. This is essential for good results.

Do not allow children and pets on treated lawns until insecticide has been washed into the sod, and the sod has dried. Do not inhale dust or spray. Wear gloves while handling emulsion concentrates. Change clothes if insecticide is spilled on them. Wash thoroughly with soap and water if chemical is spilled on the skin. Store insecticide in plainly labeled container, away from food, children and pets.