Chafer Beetle Grub Treatment

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Over the last few years, a chafer beetle infestation has been making its way towards Abbotsford from the Vancouver and Coquitlam areas. When left untreated, the infestation can have devastating effects on lawns as raccoons and crows dig up the lawn areas in search of the grubs. After consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and professionals in the industry, Sutherland Landscaping has developed the following process for grub control and has created the following PDF to help educate our clients on best practices.

Treatment:

- Upon signs of infestation, it is recommended that properties apply two applications of the Acelepyrn product over a 12-month period. When applied at the right time, it can kill upwards of 80% of larvae that will eventually grow into grubs.
- After two years of applications have commenced, a maintenance product called Grub Terminator may be applied at the property manager's discretion.

What to do if your lawn is already damaged:

If lawns have already been damaged due to an infestation, it is, unfortunately, a major undertaking to restore them to their original state. Sutherland Landscaping suggests the following steps to restore the lawns and fight off the infestation. Steps 1-4 are a bare minimum and integral for the process to work, while steps 5-7 are for best results and precautionary measures.

Steps:

1. **March:** Clean up all damaged areas in preparation for lawn care season.
2. **Mid-April:** Apply insecticide to all lawn areas.
    a. Product Acelepryn. See the description below and the attached info sheet.
3. **Early May:** Top dress and seed all damaged lawn areas.

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4. **Water grass:** Until mid-July, when the drought season starts.
5. **September:** Apply overseed, aerations, and fertilization to all damaged areas.
6. **September:** Appy Grub terminator for grub control maintenance.
    a. Product Grub Terminator - see the attached info sheet.
7. **April:** Of the following year apply a second application of Acelepryn.

Insecticide uses and its danger to people and animals:

Any pesticide usage in Canada should always be done with caution and by a licensed applicator. That being said, the products used for grub control by Sutherland Landscaping are of very low risk, especially when correctly applied. Please see the following description on the our primary product:

What is Acelepryn?

Acelepryn is both a contact and systemic insecticide that can be used as preventative or early curative insect control and is safe for pollinators like honeybees. Contact insecticides are exactly what they sound like; insects that come into contact with the product perish. Systemic insecticides work differently.

These insecticides are absorbed by plants, either through the foliage, roots, or both and then are stored within the plant. When a pest like a grub or a sod-webworm feeds on the plant the insecticide is also ingested by the pest. The pest then perishes before any noticeable damage to the plant can be done.

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Acelepryn Benefits

One of the many benefits of Acelepryn is the product has a very long residual life within the plant. This means:

- The product can be applied much earlier in the season than other grub control products.
- With an early application, Acelepryn will also control common springtime insect pests like sod webworms. This is very helpful because sod webworms are surface feeders that usually go unnoticed until they've already caused problems.
- They don't kill the grass as grubs do, they eat the leaf blades down to the crown of the plant and make the lawn look thin and brown.
- Before Acelepryn, there was no way to prevent this problem aside from having the lawn sprayed with insecticide, which is costly and can be unnecessary if the pest isn't present. With Acelepryn in our arsenal, however, we can prevent sod webworms in the same way we prevent grubs.
- Another benefit, and probably the largest, is Acelepryn's safety. It is the safest grub killer available. Pesticide labeling usually requires the use of a signal word on the label. Caution indicates the lowest level, Warning is the middle, and Danger is the highest. Acelepryn is a no-signal word product and is classified as a reduced-risk pesticide.

What's A Reduced Risk Pesticide?

Pesticides classified as reduced risk have a very high degree of safety, including:

- Low impact on human health
- Lower toxicity to non-target organisms (birds, fish, plants)
- Low potential for groundwater contamination
- Low use rates

Products that become reduced-risk pesticides are approved by the EPA in an expedited manner because they are a much better and safer option than what is currently available. Having a reduced-risk classification speaks volumes about the safety of Acelepryn when compared to other products.

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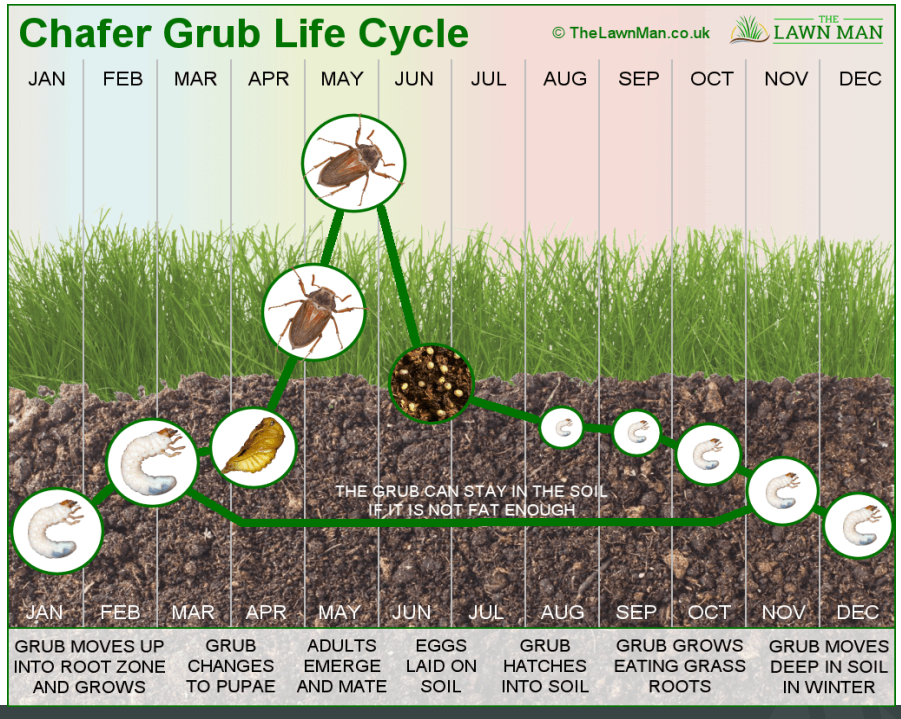
When can we access the lawn after Acelepryn has been applied?

Once the product has been applied and watered in, the lawn should be left alone for 24 hours before resuming normal usage. It is completely safe for pets, children, and other parties to use the lawn after this period. The process of watering can be done through natural means, such as dew or rain, or by using a hose.

Additional Resources:

- https://www.greencastonline.com/products/acelepryn-insecticide/turf
- https://www.plantproducts.com/ca/images/grubTERMINATOR_grubGONE_PCP33319_label_2022-02-04.pdf
- https://www.natureshelperinc.com/blog/acelepryn-insecticide/#:~:text=Acelepryn%20is%20both%20a%20contact,safe%20for%20pollinators%20like%20honeybees
- https://thelawnman.co.uk/chafer-beetle-life-cycle/

Chafer Beetle Life Cycle:



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