



Summer 2019
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Eco-Turf Talk

PJC Organic Products & Programs

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PJC Organic

is the manufacturer of
ProHealthy Turf Organic
Products & distributor of
soil amendments.

We provide product, and
support to landscapers,
schools & municipalities
that want to transition
from a conventional
approach to an all
natural organic turf care
program for the
maintenance of their
lawns and athletic fields.

Practical Approach Proven Products

In this Issue:

- PJC ProHealthy Turf now OMRI listed!
- Weed Spotlight: Crabgrass
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- Cultural Practices
- Soil Testing +
- Fall Products

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

PJC ProHealthy Turf 6-0-6 All-Natural Fertilizer
PJC ProHealthy Turf 8-0-6 All-Natural Fertilizer



NOW OMRI LISTED !

Weed Spotlight: Crabgrass

*Just remember we can't control the weather.
Regardless of what our clients may think.*

It's hard to believe that this spring temperatures have been worse for growing cool-season grasses than last year. April through July 31st we had 3 weeks with average temperatures that supported growing cool-season grasses and we had 5 weeks that were better suited to growing warm-season grasses.

*It stayed cooler longer and
warmed up quicker than last season.*

So, we shouldn't be surprised to see crabgrass when we pull up to our client's property.

Crabgrass is a warm season grass. Favors poor soil conditions; low in calcium; compacted; acidic; sunny areas; over septic tanks, along walks and driveways where the radiant heat helps warm the soil. Crabgrass plants are very adaptive and can produce seeds at mowing heights as low as 1/2-inch. A single plant is capable of producing 150,000 seeds. These crabgrass seeds lay dormant in the soil for 15-20 years and overtime work to the surface. This is why it can be so difficult to eradicate.

Focus on those things we can control.

In an All-Natural Turf Care Program, the best control is to change the underlying soil conditions through the use of soil amendments (i.e., Humic+, HiCal lime, Charge S3, etc.) and organic fertilizers. Proper cultural practices - mowing height, mowing frequency, and irrigation are all critical parts of the weed control program and vary throughout the growing

(continued)

In the News: Roundup Trial Update

The financial and legal woes of Bayer AG continue to swell over its \$63B takeover of Monsanto Co. and Monsanto's leading product Roundup. The number of lawsuits from people in the U.S. have grown from 5,000 to 18,400; saying that Roundup caused them to develop cancer. This caused Bayer CEO Werner Bauman to comment that he would be willing to consider a "financially reasonable" litigation settlement. Who knows what a "financially reasonable" settlement would be in this case? Analysts' estimates for the cost to settle lawsuits in the U.S. range from \$2.5 billion to \$20 billion.

(continued)

Cultural Practices:

MOW RIGHT ~ MOST IMPORTANT !!

- 3 1/2" high to shade soil and improve photosynthesis.
- Return clippings to build organic matter. Bag when weeds are present
- Sharpen mower blades after 8 hours

Caution: when busy the tendency is to mow short and less frequently – this is an invitation for weeds to grow.

WATER PROPERLY ~ encourage strong root growth and withstand drought:

- ✓ Infrequently 1 - 2 times a week
- ✓ Depth of 6" (approx. 1-2" a week)
- ✓ In the morning to prevent disease

During periods of extreme heat "cool" the grass down by watering more frequently for shorter periods. It's also perfectly ok to let your lawn go dormant over the summer, it will bounce back.

(continued)



All Natural Fertilizer
+
Soil Amendments
+
Cultural Practices
=
Healthy Turf



Finger-grass
Fonio
Digitaria
Crab Grass

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Providers of premium
organic fertilizers
& soil amendments.
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Roundup Trial Update

(continued)

Bayer did receive what can only be categorized as hollow good news regarding the \$2B jury award to the California couple, Alva & Alberta Pilliod, Bayer AG persuaded the judge to reduce the jury verdict to \$86.7 million. The \$2B figure was arrived at by the jury for punitive damages; that Bayer/Monsanto covered up Roundup's health risks.

Current judgements now stand at an average of \$47 million each for the four plaintiffs' cases to go to trial. If that average were to continue, Bayer AG would be looking at judgements totaling almost \$865B for the current number of outstanding lawsuits.

Bayer's shares dropped 3.4% on news that it would miss its quarterly revenue and earnings estimates and questioned its ability to meet its full-year forecast. In the last year Bayer AG's share value has fallen over 40%. ♦

Sources: Bloomberg (7/30/19, 7/26/19), Wall Street Journal (7/30/19, 7/25/19)

Cultural Practices (continued)

After August 15th

AERATE ~ to relieve compaction!

OVER SEED ~ to thicken turf..

- Use broadcast spreader when aerating
- Topdress and over seed bare areas and trouble spots.

PRODUCT APPLICATION:

- PJC ProHealthy Turf, All Natural Fertilizer
- Soil Amendments according to soil test. ♦

Soil Testing



Take any course on organic lawn care, view an article on the internet or read a book, the first thing you are told to do is take a soil test. So, you dutifully take a soil sample, send it off to a lab; get the results back – **then what?** If it's not Greek to you, it may be to your clients.

PJC Organic can provide you with soil sampling supplies, the report and product recommendations in easy to understand format.

Contact us to learn more!

Weed Spotlight: Crabgrass

(continued)

season. Higher mowing helps shade the soil, robbing weed seeds the light they need to germinate. While also helping to keep the soil cooler. This is why crabgrass will germinate in areas of your lawn where your turf grass is thin. Planting a tree is another good option as a way to shade the grass. Some situations may require a renovation and bringing in 6" of quality loam/compost and reseeding this fall. However, there is a reason crabgrass is growing – so solve the problem or it will return.

It can't be over stated: work in the spring and fall to establish a dense and healthy stand of turf grass to help crowd out crabgrass and other annual weeds. *Given the weather conditions we have experienced the last two years it is critical to overseed **this fall!***

We must also remember that in an All Natural Turf Care program accepting some weed pressure is part of the growing season. This too shall pass! ♦

PJC ORGANIC'S FALL PRODUCT LINE UP

PJC PROHEALTHY TURF ALL-NATURAL FERTILIZERS

SOIL AMENDMENTS:

- PJC ProHealthy Turf CHARGE-S₃, soil conditioner and bio stimulant
- High Efficiency Calcitic and Dolomitic Lime and Gypsum
- Humic+Plus and other Humate products

PREMIUM GRASS SEED



SOIL TESTING



Practical Approach ~ Proven Products