



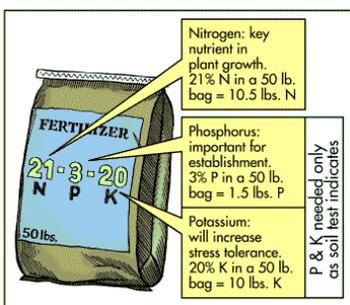
Fall Lawn Care

Applying late-season fertilizer applications to warm-season turfgrasses in Mississippi (winterizing) is a controversial management practice that stems from the concerns for potential winterkill, disease promotion, and the effect on total nonstructural carbohydrates.



Some research has indicated that late-fall nitrogen fertilization increases vulnerability to winterkill and promotion of diseases. Other studies, including those conducted by Mississippi State University, have shown no direct correlation to winterkill, but instead prolongs fall color and earlier recovery in the spring.

Late fall applications of potassium are standard recommendations and practices as potassium promotes winter hardiness and disease resistance in turf. A strong healthy lawn probably can do just fine without fall fertilization, but a weak stressed lawn can still benefit from a boost in nutrients. The first official day of fall is September 22, so we still have several weeks of growing conditions left for most of the state. Therefore, a fall application of a winterizing fertilizer formulated to contain lower ratios of nitrogen to potassium, and particularly with nitrogen sources that are released slowly, may be just what your lawn needs. Time the winterizing fertilizer application when temperatures begin to moderate and days begin to shorten, but before the turf goes dormant.



Regardless of the time of year, lush turf growth stimulated by excessive nitrogen may be more susceptible to certain diseases and insects. Be prepared to treat accordingly with appropriate fungicides and/or insecticides. Your lawn fertilization program should be based on soil test analysis, turf use requirements, and grower expectations.



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Upcoming Events for September 2018

<u>Hancock County Events</u>	
11	Growing Orchids — 6:30 p.m. at the Bay St. Louis Public Library. Orchids offer a wide variety of color and fragrance for the home gardener. This program will provide information on the diversity of orchids, as well as practical information on growing orchids in coastal Mississippi. Presenters for this program will be Christian Stephenson, Hancock County Extension Agent and Ms. Cindy Lowe, avid orchid grower and member of the Bay Waveland Garden Club.
12	Hancock County Master Gardener Meeting — 1:30 p.m. at the Hancock County Extension Service Office.
19	Fertilization and Plant Health — 2:00 p.m. at the Pass Christian Public Library. This program will include information on the importance of the various plant nutrients in promoting plant health as well as how to recognize and correct nutrient deficiencies for plants in the home landscape. This program will also include examples of soil test results and how to interpret them. Presenter is Christian Stephenson, Hancock County Extension Agent.
<u>Harrison County Events</u>	
13	Landscape Maintenance Workshop — 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Harrison County Extension office, 2315 17th St., Gulfport, MS. Tim Ray Instructor. Call Tim at 228-865-4227 for more information.
15	Harrison County Master Gardeners 2nd Annual Fall Garden Expo & Plant Sale — 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Coastal Research Extension Center located at 1815 Popp's Ferry Road in Biloxi, MS. Seminars will run throughout the day. Speakers included Dr. Gary Bachman, MSU Extension; Dr. Wayne Porter, retired MSU Extension; James Mills, K& M Roses; Michael Steel, Funny Farm Bromeliads; Pat Scrimsher, P. J.'s Organic Farms; and Linda Baker, Herb Cottage. Vendors include: Mizell Camelias, K& M Roses, Funny Farm Bromeliads, Herb Cottage and MORE. There will be informational booths, raffles and lots of door prizes.
<u>Forrest County Events</u>	
6	Deer Management Workshop — 6:00 p.m. at the Forrest County Extension Office (952 Sullivan Dr. Hattiesburg, MS). The Pinebelt QDMA will be hosting Dr. Bronson Strickland to discuss CWD, food plots, and the impact of the rut on bucks. This event will be \$20 payable to the Pinebelt QDMA and will include a BBQ dinner and raffle ticket. Please RSVP by calling 601-545-6083.
<u>Pearl River County Events</u>	
4	Pearl River-Stone County Forestry Association Meeting — 12:00 noon. The Sawmill Restaurant, 2205 Highway 49, Wiggins, MS.
7	Pearl River County Master Gardeners Meeting — 12:30 p.m. at the Crosby Arboretum in Picayune. There will be a plant swap. Bring a plant and swap with someone for a new plant.
17	Food Safety — 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. The Senior Center of South Pearl River County. Presenter: Dawn Vosbein, Extension Agent. No RSVP required.
<u>Perry County Events</u>	
18	Private Applicator Training — 1:00 p.m. at the Perry County Extension Office, 103-B 2nd Street West, New Augusta, MS. This training is for those who own or lease property for agricultural purposes. \$20 per individual payable by check or money order. Call 601-964-3668 to preregister by September 14, 2018.
<u>Stone County Events</u>	
4	Pearl River-Stone County Forestry Association Meeting — 12:00 noon. The Sawmill Restaurant, 2205 Highway 49, Wiggins, MS.
17	Private Applicator Training — 6:00 p.m. at the Stone County Extension Office, 214 N. Critz St. Suite A, Wiggins, MS. This training is for those who own or lease property for agricultural purposes. \$20 per individual payable by check or money order. Call 601-928-5286 to preregister for the training.
<u>Multi County Events</u>	
6	Floral Trends for Fall Designs — 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. Your local County Extension Office. Presenter: Lynette McDougald, Instructor, Plant and Soil Sciences. Description: Ahhh, the seasons are a' changing... Fall is on the way. This month Lynette will share the newest floral trends for your fall designs. Call your local Extension office to RSVP.
13	Timely Turf Grass Topics —12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. Your local County Extension Office. Presenter: Dr. Jay McCurdy, Assistant Professor, Plant and Soil Sciences. Description: As fall arrives so do the changes in turf grass. Dr. McCurdy will share information specific to turf grass in our state. Call your local Extension office to RSVP.
27	Make Mine McCarty —12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. Your local County Extension Office. Presenter: Taylor Bowden, Manager, MSU Florist. Description: From your own backyard blooms to exciting contemporary construction, join us as Taylor showcases flowers and great McCarty pottery! Call your local Extension office to RSVP.

Garden Calendar: September

Get Ready

- ◆ Make sure you've ordered daffodils and other spring bulbs for October planting.
- ◆ Build or buy compost bin in anticipation of autumn leaves.



Plant

- ◆ Plant cool season leafy root vegetables: Carrots, Beets, Turnips, Lettuce, and Spinach.
- ◆ Sow hardy annuals: Sweet Alyssum, Calendula, Annual Pinks, Snapdragon, and Sweet Peas.
- ◆ Sow rye grass seed in winter lawns.

Fertilize

- ◆ Stop feeding mums when the buds start showing color.
- ◆ Acidify Azaleas and Camelias.



Water

- ◆ Slow down watering of Azaleas and Hydrangea to allow them to harden against winter freezes.
- ◆ Spray foliage of Camelias in anticipation of their bloom.
- ◆ Water potted plants and hanging baskets frequently.

Prune

- ◆ Disbud Camellias, Dahlias, and Chrysanthemums to produce specimen blooms. It is generally not a good idea to prune this late in the year, because new growth will be more susceptible to winter freezes.

Miscellaneous

- ◆ Turn compost pile.
- ◆ Propagate by layering. Scrape underside of a strong branch, bend down to ground, cover with soil and weigh down with a brick. Water from time to time and end of branch will put out new growth; becoming a new plant.
- ◆ Pick flowers in bloom and dry for future arrangements. Bundle flowers together and hang upside down in a dry, sheltered area.
- ◆ Repot houseplants. Prune away damaged foliage and give a good dose of food.

In Bloom

- ◆ Canna, Cosmos, Copper Plant, Marigolds, Periwinkle, Plumbago, Crape Myrtle, Althea, Four-o'clocks, Salvia, Ageratum, Coleus, Lycoris, Aster, Begonia, Celosia, Chrysanthemum, Coral Vine, Ginger Lily, Gladiolus, Jacobina, Liriope, Morning Glory, Petunia, Phlox, Rattle Box, Rose, Spider Lily, Torenia, Vinca, White Zephyranthes Lily, Zinnia, Buddleia, Franklin Tree.

Fall Color

- ◆ Flowering Dogwood with showy, drooping red leaves.
- ◆ Ginkgo leaves turn pure yellow.





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Managing Crape Myrtle Bark Scale

What's happening to our crape myrtles?
Will it keep spreading?
How can we control it?

Crape myrtle bark scale is established and spreading in coastal counties. Learn how to avoid or control this pest before it ruins your crape myrtles.



Dr. Blake Layton, Mississippi State University Extension Service Entomologist Specialist, will give a free seminar on managing Crape Myrtle Bark Scale followed by open discussion. Open to the public.

September 26, 2018 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

OCEAN SPRINGS LIBRARY

525 Dewey Ave. Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Longleaf Pine FIELD DAY

Establishment and Management of Longleaf Pine

Friday, October 5th, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: 209 John Henry Lake Rd. Poplarville, MS

\$10.00 Registration Fee for Lunch & Information Materials
Registration **REQUIRED** by September 21st, 2018 to the Pearl River
County Extension Service Office at:
601-403-2280

Join us to learn about longleaf pine establishment & management:
history, planting, prescribed fire, economics, & cost-shared programs.

Continuing Forestry Education credits available.
Please wear appropriate field clothing (rain or shine).
Snacks and water will be provided.

Sponsors/Partners:



USFWS
NRCS
MSU Extension Service
MDWFP
National Wild Turkey Federation
MFC

Pearl River Soil and Water Conservation District
Wildlife MS
Southern Straw Company
Parish Tractor Company, LLC
MFA
Forest Stewardship Program



It's Hancock County Fair Time!!!

The 6th Annual Hancock County Fair will be held on September 19 thru September 22, 2018, at the Hancock County Fairgrounds, 4184 Kiln-Delisle Rd. Kiln, MS, 39556. The fair will include carnival rides, live music, food and craft vendors as well as livestock and youth arts and craft on display. For more information about the fair please visit hancockcountyfair.us.

Wednesday Sept 19, 2018

3:00pm-7:00pm Exhibit Area Opens to Public
3:00pm-4:00pm Vendors Setup
5:00pm Open to Public
5:00pm- Livestock Exhibit Registration
6:00pm- 10:00pm Carnival Rides **Pay One Price Armband \$16.00** of Individual Tickets
6:00pm- Until- *Christian Night Praise and Worship Music*

Thursday Sept 20, 2018

5:00pm-8:00pm Arts and Craft Exhibit Area Open to Public
5:00pm-8:00pm Livestock Exhibit Area Open to Public
5:00pm-10:00pm Food Vendor/ Arts and Crafts Open
5:00pm-7:30pm **Kaitlin Jewel Band**
6:30pm-10:30pm Carnival Rides **Pay One Price Armband \$20.00** or Individual Tickets
7:00pm-Until- 4D Barrel Run \$3000.00 Added
7:30pm-9:00pm **Nick Perkins as ELVIS**
9:30pm-11:00pm **Category 6**

Friday Sept 21, 2018

9:00am-8:00pm Exhibit Area Opens to Public
5:00pm-11:00pm Food Vendor/Arts and Crafts Open
5:00pm-11:00pm Livestock Exhibit Area Open to public
5:00pm-6:30pm **Kelsey Moran Band**
6:00pm-7:00pm Carnival Rides Individual Tickets
7:00pm-8:30pm **Ryan Foret and Foret Tradition**
7:00pm-12:00am Carnival Rides **Pay One Price Armband \$20.00** or Individual Tickets
7:30pm-10:00pm High School Rodeo in Arena
9:00pm-12am- **The Chee Weez**

Saturday Sept 22, 2018

9:00am-2:00pm JR. High Rodeo in Arena
9:00am-8:00pm Exhibit Area Open to Public
10:00am-2:00pm **Bluegrass Bands on Second Stage**
Noon-Midnight Food Vendor/Arts and Crafts Open
Noon- 3:00pm Carnival Rides **½ Price**
2:00pm-3:00pm Stick Horse Rodeo in Arena
2:00pm- 3:00pm Chicken Auction
3:00pm-4:00pm Working Dog Exhibition in Arena
4:00pm-5:00pm **Political Speaking**
6:00pm-7:00pm- **Ross Grisham Band**
8:00pm-9:30pm- **Tab Benoit**
10:00pm-11:20pm- **Mark Chesnutt**
3:00pm-11:00pm Carnival Rides **Pay One Price Armband \$20.00** or Individual Tickets
7:30pm-10:00pm High School Rodeo in Arena
Exhibition Horse Races: Thursday Sept. 20, 2018, 4pm-6pm; **Friday** Sept. 21, 2018, 4pm-6pm;
Saturday Sept. 22, 2018, 10am-6pm
Start Time Subject to Change. Entries open Sept. 5, 2018 at 4p.m. at the Hancock County Arena.
Call Kevin Ladner 228-493-1582 of Paul Harris 228-216-0013 for more information.



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Attracting Birds and Other Wildlife to Your Backyard

Birding is a fun activity enjoyed by both young and old. Often times many who enjoy birdwatching travel to secluded areas or refuges to enjoy the activity while overlooking the potential in their own backyard. By incorporating a few simple features into your yard you can often increase the diversity of wildlife spotted from your back window.

The first element to include is food. Using feeders is a common tactic that many home birders use. By using a mix with a blend of seeds and even incorporating other less common seeds you can attract a greater diversity of birds. Those with more space can include native grasses, flowers, trees, and shrubs that attract insects and produce seeds favored by local wildlife.

These more natural food sources also provide another important service, cover. Cover provides shelter for wildlife during weather events as well as predators. Adding cover and food sources can have a great impact on how many birds use an area. Placing food in close proximity to cover is often more beneficial as birds feel safer and more readily use feeders.

Another service of cover is nesting structure. Come spring local birds will be looking for places to raise their young. Many of these will build nests in or around these native grasses and shrubs. Others like eastern bluebirds may be cavity nesters and can take advantage of bird houses placed around your yard.

One final feature worth considering if you want to attract birds to your backyard is water. Throughout the year birds will need a dependable supply of water. This can be as simple as a bird bath or as complex as a water feature circulating water through your backyard. One benefit to adding a water feature would be the ability to incorporate native wetland vegetation for a more natural appearance.



Eastern bluebirds readily nest in simple bird houses placed in backyards.



Water features provide aesthetics as well as attract wildlife.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
 Earn additional income from coastal natural resources and your land.

Outdoor Recreational Business Workshop

Registration Form
 Mail in the form below with your payment

A registration fee of \$10 per person or \$15 a couple must be included with your registration. Make checks payable to Mississippi State University.

Registration Options
Online:
<http://wildlifeworkshop.msstate.edu/register.asp>
By Mail (return completed form below):
 Bridgette Varone
 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
 Office of Restoration and Resiliency
 1141 Bayview Avenue
 Biloxi, MS 39530

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
 EXTENSION
 FOREST & WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER
 MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURAL & FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION

Bay St. Louis, MS- Sept. 26, 2018

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____



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Controlling Small Flies in the Home

Many people may have been dealing with small flies lately. There are several species of small, gnat-sized flies that may occur in homes or offices and become a real nuisance. They include fruit flies, phorid flies, moth flies, and fungus gnats and most often occur briefly in our homes.

Fruit flies often breed in decaying fruit or vegetables as well as in other types of decaying organic matter. They are often seen flying about overripe bananas, tomatoes, empty juice or wine bottles, or similar items. These small flies can reproduce quite successfully in the few drops of liquid in the bottom of empty container.

Phorid flies breed in a wide range of decaying organic matter, including decaying vegetable matter or meat, animal feces, and many other sources. They are sometimes referred to as drain flies because the larvae of some species feed on the organic scum that accumulates inside drain pipes and garbage disposals. Phorids can also breed in the residue inside garbage cans that are not cleaned frequently and in moist food residues that accumulate under and around appliances.

Moth flies are also called drain flies or sewage gnats and may be seen resting on bathroom or kitchen walls near the drain from which they probably emerged. The larvae breed in sewage and other organic accumulations in drain pipes from which adults emerge.

Fungus gnats occur indoors where houseplants are kept. The larvae breed in the potting media, feeding on fungi growing on the roots of the plants as well as on the roots themselves. These small flies do not bite, but when numerous, can become a nuisance by hovering around the TV, computer monitor, or other light sources in darkened rooms. The key to controlling these pests is to identify their breeding source which can be any type of organic matter.

Routine sanitation helps prevent infestations which includes: take out garbage regularly; clean up any spilled food or garbage; dispose of any fruits or vegetables that are overripe or rotten; repair leaks and regularly empty and clean drain pans under appliances; use properly labeled algacides to prevent accumulations of algae in drain pans; avoid overwatering houseplants and empty and clean drain saucers regularly; clean drains regularly with an appropriately labeled microbial drain cleaner such as Drain Gel, InVade Bio Drain, DF 5000 Drain Cleaner, Vector Bio-5, all of which may be purchased on-line if not found locally.

When infestations of small flies occur, the best way to control them is to find and eliminate their breeding source, and it helps to be able to identify the kind of flies involved.



Fruit fly



Phorid fly



Moth fly



Fungus gnat



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Fall Armyworms

Fall armyworms are extremely damaging insect pests of Mississippi hayfields, pastures and in Bermuda Turfgrass settings. These caterpillars feed on lush, tender grass/plant leaves, primarily Bermuda grass, crabgrass, and sorghum/sudan type grasses in our area. Producers should look for fall armyworms throughout the growing season and be ready to treat quickly when damaging infestations occur.

Fall armyworms are unpredictable pests. Some years, high populations do not occur until early fall. Other years, damaging infestations appear as early as June. I have observed armyworms from June – December at various times over the past few years in South Mississippi.

Fall armyworm caterpillars vary in color depending on their stage of development and diet. Most are green or tan, but some can be dark brown to almost black, especially late in the year when numbers are high. The body is punctuated with dark spots, and mature caterpillars are about 1-1/2 inch long. Fall armyworm moths are about three-fourths of an inch long when resting with their wings folded. The forewings are gray to dark brown, but the underwings are white. You will not often see the moths unless you go out at night with a spotlight to look for them or happen to flush one from its daytime resting place.

Fall armyworm moths lay their eggs in clusters, their eggs hatch in 2–5 days, and the newly emerged larvae scatter out and begin feeding. They usually begin by feeding on the underside of the leaf blade. Their feeding habits result in tiny, white “windowpanes” in the leaf blades or a white frizzing of the leaf tips. Experienced producers watch for this white frosting or frizzing of the leaf tips as an early warning of fall armyworm infestation.

Caterpillars take about 14 days to complete their larval development, and it takes about a month to complete a generation. About 80 percent of total leaf consumption occurs in the last 2–3 days of the caterpillar stage. This is why fall armyworm damage can occur so quickly; grass that looked fine Friday morning can be nothing but stems by Monday afternoon.

There are several options for effective management of fall army worms. To find what best suits your situation, please check out the following MSU Extension Publications: Fall Armyworms in Hayfields and Pastures; Publication 2331, and Control Insect Pests in and around the Home Lawn; Publication 1858. You may also contact your local MSU Extension Office to discuss treatment options with your agent.



Like most caterpillars, fall armyworms eat 80% to 90% of the total leaf area they will consume in their final two or three days as caterpillars.



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Fall Webworms

A common question I have been receiving recently is, “webworms are killing my trees what can I do”? Fall webworms are seen all over South Mississippi this time of year. They will feed on many different trees but pecan and persimmon are their favorite. These caterpillars normally feed inside the web where they are protected from birds and other predators during the day but at night they will venture outside the webs. Some years populations can reach high numbers and cause severe defoliation. In these cases the nut crop can be affected that year and the following year.

Treating large trees can be difficult for people who do not have access to large air blast sprayers. Using an Air blast sprayer a commercial grower can easily control webworms. For many of us the trees are in a home lawn and we don't have access to this type of equipment, in these cases the common thing to do is nothing. These mature trees even if severely defoliated will be able to survive without any long term problems other than the reduced nut crop for that year and the following year.

If a tree is small enough to be sprayed with a handheld sprayer you can use spinosad to control the webworms. Another option is to use a long pole to tear apart the webs exposing the caterpillars to predators.



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Algal Leaf Spot

Algal leaf spot is one of the few plant diseases caused by a parasitic algae (*Cephaleuris virescens*). This pathogen frequently causes disease on southern magnolia and common camellia. The disease usually affects leaves, but can occasionally affect twigs of plants as well.

Algal leaf spot starts as a round, green, slightly velvety colony on leaf surfaces. As the spot develops further it will turn reddish-brown. Frequently algal leaf spots will be colonized by a fungus which gives the spot a grey appearance. The fungi that associate with the algae does not harm plants. Symptoms of algal leaf spot first develop in the summer and may become more noticeable through the fall.

Algal leaf spot reproduces through spores which may be spread by both wind and water. Spores are produced when colonies are wet, and spores may spread through the film of water present on leaves. Problems with this disease are more severe following frequent rainfall and windy conditions. The pathogen for algal leaf spot survives through the winter on stem cankers and fallen leaves.

When algal leaf spot occurs at a low level it may be managed simply by removing leaves which show spots. Algal leaf spot is more severe on plants that are in poor conditions. Trees which are in direct sunlight and are watered excessively are particularly vulnerable. Fallen leaves should be raked to prevent them harboring the algae. Trees should be pruned to improve air circulation and promote the drying of leaves. This disease may also be controlled by the application of copper containing fungicides.

