

Your Yard

Tackling Lawn Troubles

(NAPSA)—Some simple preparation can keep your yard healthy and inviting all season long.

“The key to a healthy lawn is to catch a problem early and treat before the condition gets out of control,” says Dr. Charles Barr. “The best time to treat is when you first see a problem. Brown or yellow spots are often the first indication of lawn problems and they need to be treated early to prevent spread.”

Need help diagnosing your lawn problem? Here are some common ailments:

- **Grubs:** Lawn and garden problems often stem from underground insects. The most common underground insect is a white, caterpillar-like insect called a grub. Grubs have an insatiable appetite for grass roots. Grub-damaged lawns show large, irregular sections of brown turf that easily detach from the soil.

- **Insects:** A typical lawn is home to thousands of insects. Many of them are beneficial to the lives of lawns and other plants. Others can have detrimental effects. The more common insect species include ants, fleas, ticks, armyworms, chinch bugs and European crane flies. Areas of the lawn under attack will turn brown and small mounds of soil may become evident.

- **Lawn Disease:** If you are having a lawn problem and there is no sign of insects or grubs, your lawn could be suffering from a lawn disease. Lawn diseases are common all over the country because the disease-causing fungi are already present in the soil. They become off balance when the lawn is stressed by extremes in the weather; such as heavy rain, drought and unseasonably warm



Keeping the grass greener on your side of the fence may be easier than you thought.

or cool temperatures. There are over 20 different types of lawn disease and they can often be identified by brown or yellow spots, patches or rings, fungus, mildew, mushrooms or mold.

To answer their lawns' growing needs, homeowners now have access to professional products containing active ingredients previously available only to lawn care professionals. These treatments promise faster and longer-lasting results. For instance, Maxide Professional Grade Insect Killer has dual-action technology, so it kills on contact, absorbs into the plant and is released over time for season long protection. The company offers similar products for grubs and lawn disease.

To learn more about lawn problems and solutions, visit www.maxide.com.