

Defeating Your Summer Pest Population and Fighting the Fungus

Along with longer days, no school traffic and warmer (okay, incredibly hot) weather, the summertime bugs arrive. We have several ways of getting rid of these persistent pests.

Monthly Flea and Tick Treatment: This is sprayed on your grass and/or wooded areas to control fleas and ticks. If you have pets, you may be finding fleas and ticks in your home, so it's best to take care of them at their origin.

Once-a-Year TopChoice™ Fire Ant Treatment: This is a treatment that will work all year on fire ants and for 30 to 40 days on fleas, ticks and crickets.

Perimeter Pest Control: An insecticide barrier treatment is sprayed around your home to keep fireants, ants, ticks, fleas, spiders and, to some extent, mosquitoes out of your yard. These pests tend to breed in areas like the base of your shrubs, ground cover and even in the water dishes of potted plants, so all of these places will be sprayed as well. And with fewer pests outdoors, there will be fewer pests indoors also.



Fungus and tough weeds in your grass can also be addressed and suppressed with our treatments. There are several types of fungi that do not respond to treatments and require the application of specific products. These include brown patch and zoysia patch. Nutsedge is a very stubborn weed.

Nutsedge: This is known for its three-sided stems and star-like flower petals. It can split concrete slabs and force its way through asphalt, so stopping it before it does damage to your home and lawn is important.



Zoysia Patch: This attacks zoysia grass as it emerges from winter dormancy. Blades take on a tan/orange color in small patches, around 2 inches in diameter. These patches can quickly expand to as much as 20 feet in diameter, so taking care of it promptly is essential for the health of your lawn.



Brown Patch: Also known as large patch, it appears as large, unsightly symmetrical patches. The areas range in diameter from a few inches to a few feet. Over time, if untreated, the center of the patch will recover, resulting in a doughnut-shaped pattern.

If any of these problems have appeared in your lawn, call us at 329-4151 and we'll stop by to provide a free estimate for treatment. You can also request an estimate online, www.arbornomicsnashville.com.

Letter From Summer Camp

Dear Mom and Dad,

Our scoutmaster told us to write to our parents in case you saw the flood on TV and are worried. We are okay. Luckily, none of us drowned because we were all up on the mountain looking for Adam when it happened. Oh, please call Adam's mother and tell her he is okay. He can't write because of the cast. I got to ride in one of the search-and-rescue jeeps. It was neat. We never would have found Adam in the dark if it hadn't been for the lightning.

We will be home on Saturday if Scoutmaster Keith gets the bus fixed. It wasn't his fault about the wreck. The brakes worked okay when we left. Scoutmaster Keith said that with a bus that old you have to expect something to break down; that's probably why he can't get insurance. We think it's a neat bus. He doesn't care if we get it dirty, and if it's hot, sometimes he lets us ride on the fenders.

Guess what? We have all passed our first-aid merit badges. When Andrew dove into the lake and cut his arm, we got to see how a tourniquet works. Steven and I threw up, but Scoutmaster Keith said it probably was just food poisoning from the leftover chicken. He said they got sick that way with food they ate in prison. I'm so glad he got out and became our scoutmaster.

I have to go now. We are going to town to mail our letters and buy some more beer. Don't worry about anything.

Love, Your Son





Application #4

What we did today

To your lawn:

Different lawns have different needs:

FESCUE lawns received a blanket application of four kinds of herbicides which were applied for the broadleaf weed. This time of year brown patch fungus is active and causes havoc on fescue lawns. If you see brown circular patches call our office to set up an inspection and quote for a fungicide application. Cut fescue lawns at the highest setting on your mower. This will help in lowering the soil temperature for this cool season grass.

BERMUDA lawns received a treatment of medium release granular fertilizer. Warm weather stimulates lawns to grow. The medium release fertilizer will provide nourishment to the grass plants until our next visit.

For optimum results, please water your lawn within a week of treatment if it does not rain.



To your trees and shrubs:

(if you are a tree and shrub customer)

- 1) We applied an insecticide to help control lace bugs, aphids, caterpillars and Japanese beetles, and a miticide to battle spider mites.
- 2) A fungicide was applied to control diseases like powdery mildew and leaf spot.

What you need to do until our next visit

- 1) During summer, all lawns should have once inch of water per week from rain or irrigation. If it doesn't rain, check with your local water authority regarding watering regulations. The best watering time is early morning. Do not water in the afternoon or evening.
- 2) Keep an eye out for fungus diseases.
- 3) Routine mulching will help your shrubs grow better as it helps retain water in the soil.

Helpful Phone Numbers

www.arbor-nomicsnashville.com

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Nashville Trivia Quiz

1. What is the shape of the driveway at President Andrew Jackson's home, The Hermitage?
2. What was the original name of the Grand Ole Opry?
3. What country music entertainers went into the sausage business?
4. After drinking a cup of locally produced coffee in Nashville, which U.S. president coined the phrase "good to the last drop!"?
5. Although this now famous coffee is still enjoyed everywhere, it was served for the last time at the hotel where it got its start on December 25, 1961. What was the name of the Nashville hotel?
6. What famous Nashville candy is made of chocolate, caramel, marshmallows and peanuts?



Answers: 1. The drive is in the shape of a guitar. 2. The WSM Barn Dance. 3. Jimmy Dean and George Jones. 4. Theodore Roosevelt. 5. The Maxwell House Hotel. 6. Goo Goo Clusters





Bare in Mind...

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a bee makes a living.

von Frisch came to see his bees as comrades and delighted in showing skeptics the almost-magical process by which bees flew enthusiastically back to their nest and danced. As the Third Reich came into power, von Frisch found himself being cast into a power struggle for his very survival and existence. He was, after all, one-third Jewish. He added to suspicions about his Zionism by sponsoring Jewish graduate students, and an effort was made to expel him from his post. However, the bees saved him. Raffles writes that an outbreak of the parasite *Nosema apis* had been ravaging hives for two years, and von Frisch was sorely needed to stay at his job to save the food chain.

von Frisch discovered that scout bees performed dances for their fellow workers that told them whether there was nectar or pollen. The enthusiasm of the dance conveyed the quality of the source, and the scent on the bee's body communicated the type of flower. Raffles writes that the dancing bee uses the sun as a reference point, remembering the daylight at the hive entrance. But the dance is performed on a vertical comb, presenting the bee with logistical problems, which it overcomes with trigonometric functions that perfectly communicate directions to the food source.

von Frisch tracked bees seven miles from their homes; he attached weights to their bodies to see if that affected their

calculations (it did). The bees were affected by wind and temperature, and they exhibited astonishingly subtle senses of smell and touch. The bees grew to recognize the different field workers. von Frisch had to work hard to make sure his experiments were objective. He invented an identification system so he could track hundreds of individual bees by painting numbers on the bee backs with a fine brush.

von Frisch came to respect the different members of the hive, their distinct personalities, their differing moods, and their "class consciousness." He found some bees to be "shrewd, eager, or phlegmatic." Through the chaos of the Third Reich, the war, the confusion of his country, von Frisch and his students found a pursuit that gave them order, clarity of purpose, goals, hierarchy of task, and a reason for living.

These people became profoundly attached to their subjects. And it's easy to see why. A bee colony has tens of thousands of inhabitants, and they each are part of a social group: some forage food, some attend to the Queen, some just have sex all day, and others perform other specialized tasks. Each hive can exhibit an individual culture, some are well kept and tidy, and others are messy and unkempt. Some are peaceful, others a beehive of activity. The hive is

an outward expression of the collective cooperation of its inhabitants.

Lastly, let me tell you about how bees go out and look for a new home when their hive gets too crowded. In a nutshell, they send scouts out, who find five to ten suitable places. The scouts come back and tell the powers that bee about their find, then the management (Beeswax Division) go out and see what they think. Then they hold a bunch of Beetings (meetings) and fight, argue, discuss, and then compromise on where to build the next Palace for the Queen. Occasionally, they split up, and one faction will go off in a huff, but they always return because they need the Queen to survive. Sounds like a human couple looking for a house.

This is an incredible read. If you have any doubts about whether you'll like it, go to the library and take it out. You have to at least read the parts about cricket fighting, sex, and why insect cultures last for millennia and ours don't.

I think I'll close with my favorite insect poem:

Tell Me No Lice

By: Dick Emmons

Poor little bug upon my plant,
Will you bring on a blight?
You look so tiny that you can't
But then again you might.





THE BUGGETTE

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What I did on my summer vacation

We asked several Arbor-Nomics employees what was their best memory of summer vacation when they were kids. Here's what we got.

Dick – We went on the same vacation every year to see my aunt and uncle up in Canada. We went so far north that the roads weren't paved. I remember the Canadian bacon, playing with my cousins and how gorgeous it all was.

Steve – Going to Daytona Beach and staying at the Nautilus Court Motel. One time my dad caught a fish and carried it around all day or so my mom said.

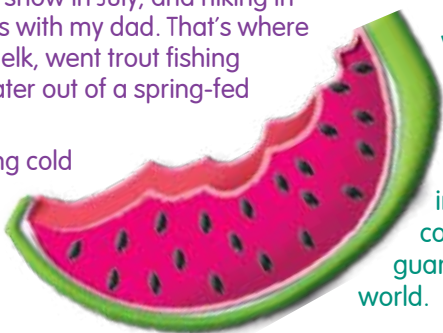
Betty – I played with my cousins in their yard, which was full of cherry trees. When the cherries were ripe, my uncles would pick bushels of them and we would all eat them until we were sick.

Joel – Practically every summer we went to Destin and Panama City, FL. We played on the beach and went to the waterparks, which didn't have those nice fiberglass slides, but concrete slides. You slid down those on a pad and if you fell off, you went home looking like you fell out of a car!

Megan – I remember being able to run around in the woods like a banshee.

Doug – I loved going to Colorado and playing in the snow in July, and hiking in the mountains with my dad. That's where I saw my first elk, went trout fishing and drank water out of a spring-fed stream.

Teddy – Eating cold watermelon outside and having seed spitting contests.



Bare in Mind

by Dick Bare

Hi Everyone!

Hope all is well with you and yours.

We went to Savannah over the Memorial Day weekend for a little R & R. I took a new book along entitled *Insectopedia* by Hugh Raffles. It is fascinating! This book has many interesting facts about insects: how they are found thousands of feet up in the air (even the ones that can't fly), how they mate (how would you like to be decapitated after a dinner date?), and how the world has been changed by these seemingly lowly creatures we call bugs.

The most interesting thing I've read so far though concerns the honeybee. I had no idea of the world that exists out there involving bees. In the chapter entitled "Language," Raffles writes about Karl von Frisch, who won a Noble Prize in 1973 for his discovery of the language of bees.

In research carried out over fifty years, von Frisch showed that humans did not solely possess the ability to communicate by language; these tiny animals were master minds, existing in a very high order of social co-existence and discipline that guaranteed their sustainability in our world.

Karl von Frisch writes:

When I wish to attract some bees for training experiments, I usually place upon a small table several sheets of paper which have been smeared with honey. Then I am often obliged to wait for many hours, sometimes for several days, until finally a bee discovers the feeding place. But as soon as one bee has found the honey, many more will appear within a short time—perhaps as many as several hundred. They have all come from the same hive as the first forager; evidently this bee must have announced its discovery at home.

In 1914, von Frisch was director of the Rockefeller-funded Institute of Zoology at the University of Munich. He was a highly respected scientist in Germany, and in his own words he fell "irresistibly under the spell of the honeybee."

Prior to 1914, he had discovered that bees, after discovering plates of sugar, returned to the hive and put on a dance that communicated the quality of the sugar, where it was, and how to get there. This of course went to the very core of the bee-hive existence, since the identification of nectar and pollen is how

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