

## Pre-Emergent Herbicide Weed Control

By: Melinda Sperl

Weeds are popping up everywhere right now and it is still too cool for any kind of weed killer until the weather is consistently over 80 degrees. What you should do is apply a pre-emergent herbicide which kills the weeds seeds before they sprout.

Most weeds are spread by seeds. Even if you put that useless weed barrier down in your beds, you are bound to have weeds as most are airborne or spread by birds. Even if you kill the weeds in your yard today, the seeds remain in the yard to germinate for the next year. Then year after year you will not only have the same weeds, you will have more and more. It sounds like an endless cycle, especially now that many yards are sodding with Bermuda grass, which can be one of our worst culprits in flowerbeds.

This is where the Pre-Emergent Herbicide comes in. You apply it now, again in late fall and you can kill the weed seeds for the next germination cycle.

Weed and feed fertilizers should be applied only once (if at all) and then an active control program of the weeds to be pro-active. Commercially prepared pre-emergents like Amaze are available. An organic option is Corn Meal Gluten that smells like cornbread without all the chemicals, but it is expensive.

Happy Gardening!

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