

Lawn Care Tips for Pet Owners

Dog Urine Damage

Gypsum: This is a calcium sulfate blend that will limit salt damage from dog urine. It will neutralize the high nitrogen level and help prevent *burning* of the grass. Gypsum will also increase the water retention capacity which will increase the root penetration and thus insure better drought resistance.

Source: Nature's Way Landscaping, Ontario, Canada, 1999.

Dog Spots, Toad Stools and Fairy Ring

Apply "*Tide*" or "*All*" dry laundry detergent with a hand-held fertilizer spreader set on a medium setting.

Lawn Care Snack Tonic

This tonic gets the lawn up and growing in the spring and fall when aggressive root action and thatch breakdown is needed. Apply with a 20 gallon hose-end sprayer after your first application of dry lawn food in the spring and the last application in the fall.

Recipe covers approximately 2500 sq. feet.

1 can beer

1 cup liquid dish soap or baby shampoo

Fill the remainder of the spray jug with ammonia.

All Season Lawn Tonic

After applying the Snack Tonic, use this tonic every three weeks in the early morning. Mix in a 20 gallon hose-end sprayer. Add a can of regular cola flavored soda pop to encourage dethatching.

Recipe covers approximately 2500 sq. feet.

1 can beer

1 cup ammonia

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup liquid dish soap or baby shampoo

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup molasses or corn syrup

** Source: Recipes for Snack Tonic, All Season Tonic & Dog Spots, Toad Stools & Fairy Ring *Jerry Baker's Lawn Book*, Jerry Baker, America's Master Gardener, 1987, Ballantine Books.