

# YOUR LAWN

## Weeding Out Common Lawn Problems

(NAPSA)—There are ways to be sure the grass isn't always greener on the other side of the fence—and a good place to start is with weeds. Weeds can completely destroy a lawn by stealing water, nutrients and sunlight—all of which are necessary ingredients for healthy grass.

Industry experts from Vigoro, a leading brand of lawn and garden care products, say the most effective way to prevent weeds from popping up is to establish an annual lawn care program. That involves applying an early season application of a pre-emergent control.

A pre-emergent herbicide controls weeds before they sprout. In contrast, a post-emergent weed killer only kills weeds after they have appeared. Vigoro offers a technologically advanced pre-emergent crabgrass control that also offers post-emergent control. Consider the following tips from Vigoro on how and when to apply a weed control.

- The best time to apply weed control products is when plants are young and actively growing.

- Apply weed control to grass that is wet, preferably with morning dew. The moisture will help the granules stick to the weeds. The exception to this rule is for St. Augustine lawns that require application to dry grass and then need to be immediately watered into the soil.

- For best results wait one to



**Setting the lawn mower blade high lets grass grow tall enough to shade out weeds before they have a chance to take hold.**

two days after application to irrigate. This gives the herbicide sufficient time to kill the weeds.

- Granular pest control should be applied when the grass is dry and then the lawn should be watered thoroughly.

- Set the mower higher and only cut the top one-third of the grass. Taller grass will shade out and discourage weeds.

- Don't overwater. Excessive shallow watering promotes weed-seed germination.

- Always read and follow directions on labels. All Vigoro products include a project guide to inform consumers how to use the products and when to apply them. The guide also features general tips for a thick, healthy lawn.

For more information on an annual lawn care program in the area, visit [www.vigoro.com](http://www.vigoro.com).