



Early Summer Issue

# The Shade Tree Gazette

## Turf Talk

What a spring it was! Last year we did not have a winter, and this year I think we had two. A lot of snow and ice left us with a later start than I like, but we caught up with quite an effort from our staff. This should not affect the effectiveness of our program, it just made it a little more difficult for us on the ground. I have always said that we are like farmers, only working on smaller plots of land...we call ourselves Urban Farmers.

So far this year we have had plenty of moisture. I sure hope it turns out like 2013 as after several years of drought we finally got back on track. We need good weather for our crops to perform and nothing works quite like rainfall. As we enter the summer months, be on the lookout for things like brown patch in your fescue and dollar spot in your bermuda and zoysia grasses. Both of these diseases thrive on hot and moist weather especially at night. If you are irrigating, please do it very early in the morning and finish by 7:00 or 8:00 AM. This will help to manage the disease. Of

course, proper mowing makes a big difference also. Please visit our website for more info on mowing and watering.

I wanted to let you know that **King GREEN** is constantly looking for feedback from our customers. If one of our techs has done a good job, please let us know. If you see opportunities for us to improve, let us know that also. We at **King GREEN** appreciate your business. If we can assist you in any way please let us know.

Thank you again!

Your Friend,

Charlie King



## About This Service



Today we applied the early-summer (Round 3) application to your lawn. Cool-season (Fescue) lawns received weed control. Warm-season grasses (Bermuda and Zoysia) received both fast-release and controlled-release fertilizers. These fertilizers are designed to provide rapid green-up and give your lawn the proper nutrients until our next application.

Disease pressure is very high during the summer months. High temperatures combined with high humidity provide an ideal environment for disease development. **King GREEN** offers both preventative and curative fungicide programs at an extra charge. If you have any questions, please give us a call.

Also, keep in mind that now is the time to aerate Bermuda and Zoysia lawns. Be sure to call or visit our website at [kinggreen.com](http://kinggreen.com) for additional information about this service. Thank you for using **King GREEN**.

### DID YOU RECEIVE A TREE AND SHRUB APPLICATION TODAY?

The tree and shrub application today consisted of insecticide to control any young insects that might be hatching and a miticide to control mites on junipers and other shrubs. A fungicide was applied that should keep your shrubs looking their best for the next six to eight weeks. You may have noticed that we don't always spray every plant each time.

**King GREEN** uses only the most environmentally responsible products available. It is our policy to minimize all pesticide use. For this reason, we'll evaluate the landscape during each visit and spray only the plant material that needs spraying.

Thank you for using **King GREEN**.

## Termite & Pest Control

On your initial service, if you have an existing problem, we will treat inside your home in addition to our standard exterior service. With modern, advanced chemicals we will maintain the chemical barrier on the exterior of your home to keep pests out. On our quarterly follow-up visits, we will re-establish this protective barrier to keep pests from re-entering from the outside. If there is ever a concern that requires additional interior treatments, they will be provided whenever needed at no extra cost.

Termite activity picks up steam during the spring season. Don't give these voracious pests the chance to ruin your home.

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*Please note: King GREEN IPM services available only in Georgia.*

# Recipes

Win a **FREE Lawn Application!** Mail your recipe to our main office or send it via e-mail to [info@kinggreen.com](mailto:info@kinggreen.com).

## Turkey Chili that is Gluten Free

Recipe submitted by Tom Branch of Pendergrass

This recipe calls for ground turkey, canned pinto beans, canned tomato paste, and canned diced tomatoes. Chop the onions, garlic and celery and combine in a large pot with turkey until browned. Add remaining ingredients. This meal takes about 15 minutes to prepare and is ready to eat in 15 minutes, but I like mine to simmer for one hour before eating it.

### INGREDIENTS

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 pound ground turkey        | 1/2 tsp ground turmeric       |
| 1 cup fresh chopped onions   | 1 tsp paprika                 |
| 1/2 cup fresh chopped celery | 1 can green chiles - 4 oz.    |
| 3 cloves garlic              | 1 can pinto beans - 16 oz.    |
| 1 tbsp dried parsley         | 1 can diced tomatoes - 16 oz. |
| 3 tbsp chili powder          | 1 can tomato paste - 6 oz.    |



## Warm Season Turf Maintenance

King Green's lawn service programs aid in weed control and improve the color of your lawn, but there are additional maintenance practices that are the responsibility of the homeowner. These practices will greatly enhance the health, color, and density of the lawn.

### BERMUDA LAWN CARE

- Scalping your Bermuda lawn helps eliminate grass and thatch that have accumulated from the previous years, thus enabling the lawn to 'green-up' more quickly. It is not necessary to mow on the lowest level of your mower, but the mower should be lowered at least one notch to remove dead/dormant grass. The ideal time to scalp a Bermuda lawn is mid-March to early April. Be sure to bag or catch the clippings on this initial mowing, as this will open the lawn to sunlight and enhance the lawn's ability to access water and nutrients more efficiently.
- Aeration of Bermuda lawns should follow the scalping of the lawn, usually from April to late spring. This process also helps relieve soil compaction and breaks up thatch.
- Topdressing the Bermuda lawn is recommended from the beginning of the growing season to mid-summer. There are a variety of reasons to topdress including leveling, repair to winter damage or drought injury, and other aesthetic reasons.
- Regular mowing is recommended at 1 to 2 inches. Keep the mower blade sharp, mow consistently, following the 1/3 rule,

as in never removing more than one-third of the grass blade on each mowing. In addition, changing the mowing pattern will improve growth and aesthetics.

Even with adequate rainfall and irrigation, southern summers are generally hot and humid. Our lawns will show the effects. Under these conditions, consider raising the mower blade. Taller grass will aid in moisture retention, and somewhat shade the roots from the hot sun, thus reducing disease/fungus issues.

### ZOYSIA LAWN CARE

The above maintenance practices apply to Zoysia lawns with one notable exception:

- Never scalp a Zoysia lawn. This grass type has a shallow root system, and grows more slowly than Bermuda. When injured, recovery will be much slower. Mow Zoysia regularly at one and a half to two inches.

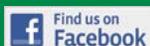
**FINAL NOTE:** Regardless of grass type, it is not necessary to bag or catch the clippings at each mowing as grass clippings are not a significant source of thatch accumulation. Thatch occurs primarily from disease or injury to the grass. Following the maintenance practices listed above in conjunction with the **King GREEN** lawn service program will keep your lawn healthy, thick, and green.



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With your entry into the King GREEN drawing. Circle the correct answers to these three questions and e-mail, fax, or mail them with your payment to be entered into our drawing. The answers can be found in this newsletter. We will have four lucky winners who will be named on our website!

### 1. What early-summer application did we apply to your lawn?

- a. Round 1                      b. Round 2                      c. Round 3

### 2. When should you irrigate your lawn?

- a. Early Morning (by 8 am)      b. Afternoon (by 12 pm)      c. Evening (by 8 pm)

### 3. When is the ideal time to scalp a Bermuda lawn?

- a. Mid-March                      b. Early April                      c. Mid-March to Early April

### SEND YOUR ANSWERS TO OUR MAIN OFFICE AT:

Mail: 1631 Gibbs Dr. • Gainesville, GA 30507  
E-mail: [info@kinggreen.com](mailto:info@kinggreen.com) Fax: (770) 536-9003

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