

# LAWN MITES

Winter Lawn Mites are one of the most devastating lawn pests in Colorado. When lawns begin to green up in the spring, winter mites will cause the vast majority of the brown areas throughout the lawn. Most of the damage occurs between November – April. Below you will find a description of the pest and helpful strategies in protecting your lawn.

## Lawn Mites:

- Symptoms present as bleached straw color with leaf blades that are very stiff.
- Mites are a sucking pest, and extract the fluid from inside the grass blades leaving it with no nutrients.
- Turfgrass mite species in Colorado include clover, banks, winter grain, and brown wheat.
- Reproduce at a very rapid pace and in large populations.
- Severe damage occurs in areas near evergreens, sloped lawns, drought stressed turf, and south-facing lawns.



## Add 1 – 3 Winter Services to Stop Severe Mite Damage

If you experience severe damage from mites, we recommend you purchase our Complete Winter Mite Protection

1. At a minimum, add a Life Cycle + Mite Deluxe Control to be completed mid-winter (December 15 – January 30). This service combines an ovicide, which attacks the eggs, with a deluxe spray, which attacks the mites that are active in both the lawn and the trees (pines, spruces, junipers or other evergreens). This is the most you can do to stop mites in one service.
2. Add two more Deluxe Mite Control Treatments to be completed in early winter (November 1 – December 15), and another in late winter (January 15 – February 28). Winter Mites have very short life cycles, and populations multiply rapidly if conditions are optimal.

**We Treat for Winter Mites as Part of our Regular Program:** We will treat for winter mites at the time of your first spring fertilizer and weed control with an effective miticide. This is done at NO ADDITIONAL COST for you. The majority of lawn care companies serving Colorado do not perform this important service.

The miticide application will stop the mites from doing more damage, but has no curative effect on areas that are already damaged. Consistent feeding, generous water, and aeration will encourage damaged areas to recover. The degree to which the damaged turf will recover depends upon the severity of the damage to the crowns (growing point) of the grass. In order to prevent future mite infestations and further damage, we highly recommend our winter mite services.

You should continue to treat for mites during the winter, and with our previous dry winters, the mite population is now out of control. Consistent winter watering during periods of no snow/warmer weather will slow the activity down considerably and allow the grass to replenish depleted moisture and nutrients.

Call today for special offers or speak with your respective Branch Manager.



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