

## NEWS COLUMN

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### **Rely on Nature's Signs to Apply Crabgrass Control**

Applying lawn crabgrass control too early or late will not give you results you are looking for and thus you will once again be frustrated throughout the mid to latter part of the growing season. The answer to the proper application timing of this product lies in the simple fact that crabgrass germinates at soil temps of about 60 degrees. That does not normally occur in Lincoln County until early May in most years. Obviously, the soil temp reaches 60 degrees on a different day every spring, so we need to rely on nature's clues for help. The most common way to determine the proper time to put on pre-emergence herbicide crabgrass preventer is the common lilac shrub. When you first see signs of color in the buds of the lilac it is time to apply the crabgrass control. If you wish to try a more specific method, stick a meat thermometer in the ground a couple of inches for ten minutes. If the temp reaches 55 to 60 degrees you can apply crabgrass killer.

Remember to read and follow all label directions carefully. More is not better and using less than recommended will produce less than favorable results.

### **Historical Spring Frost Dates in Lincoln County are as Follows:**

Percent probability of 30° F occurring after date shown.

April 27 -50%

May 7-30%

May 15-10%