



PEST OF THE MONTH

August

LEATHERJACKET LARVAE

Leatherjackets lay their eggs in lawns early August which hatch in about 2 weeks time. As the leatherjacket larvae hatch, they start feeding immediately on lawns and roots in mid August causing considerable amount of damage to the lawns. They cause yellow patches in lawns that can be pulled up easily from significant root damage.

Leatherjacket larvae are grayish black in color that are about 2.5cm/ 1 inch in length.

Nematodes are an excellent biological treatment for leatherjackets without having to use chemicals and pesticides. Nematodes actively infest and kill the larvae, thus stopping the cycle from repeating itself and infesting the lawns further. Nematodes are best applied in early to mid August when the leatherjacket larvae are in its most vulnerable stage.

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