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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

July 26, 1974

Control Thatch

(0:25)

(612) 733-0710



yard/garden  
radio briefs

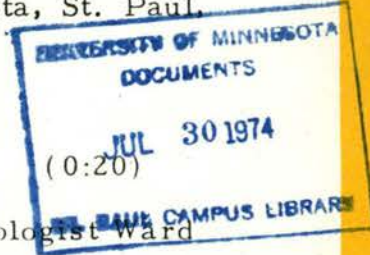
Your lawn may have too much thatch, which is an accumulated layer of organic matter that resists decay.

If your lawn is properly mowed, watered and fertilized, the grass clippings will decompose rapidly and will not contribute to the thatch layer.

For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 40, "Control Thatch in the Home Lawn," from your county extension office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.

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Dutch Elm Disease



University of Minnesota extension plant pathologist Stienstra (steen-s-tra) says Dutch elm disease has struck with a "fury" during the last two weeks in several Minnesota areas.

Samples of elm trees for testing of Dutch elm disease should be sent to the Dutch Elm Disease Laboratory at 670 State Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155.

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Wild Plants

(0:28)

University horticulturist Jane McKinnon says mid-summer brings fruits that children and nature lovers often like to try but should leave for birds.

Scarlet Elder fruits look appetizing, but are not used as human food. The elder used for jellies and pies is the black-fruited American Elder. Several honeysuckles used as landscape plants produce jewel-like red or orange soft berries in July. These also are not considered edible. Mrs. McKinnon says they are not poisonous but are also not tasty.

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Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>