

# AGGRAND<sup>®</sup> NEWS

*All of us at AGGRAND thank you for selling/using AGGRAND Natural Liquid Fertilizer Products, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.*

## Fall and Winter Gardening Tips

### November

#### Short Season (northern states)

- Mulch asparagus beds with chopped leaves or straw to protect crops from frost.
- Check stored vegetables for rot.
- If you plan to test your soil, take samples early this month for nutrient analysis.
- Mulch bramble fruits as they go dormant.
- Continue watering young trees and shrubs until the ground freezes.
- Apply an antidesiccant such as Wilt-Pruf to young trees and shrubs in windy spots.
- Prepare a hole now for planting your live Christmas tree.
- In preparation for winter snowfall, stake or prop up the heaviest branches of large evergreens. Yews and other foundation shrubs should be tied up or protected with snow boards to prevent damage.
- It's not too late to fertilize the lawn if you didn't do so last month.

#### Midlength Season (central states)

- Apply AGGRAND Natural Liquid Lime to the garden where necessary.
- Mulch overwintering carrots and parsnips with clean straw.
- If moles and mice are prevalent, place tulip bulbs in wire cages as you plant them.
- Get a head start on spring weeding by clearing weeds from beds now.
- Wrap the trunks of fruit trees and young shade trees to protect them from sunscald and animal damage.
- Mulch bramble fruits as they go dormant.
- Check lilacs for scale and cut away severely infested branches; wait until late winter to spray with lime sulfur or dormant oil.
- Sharpen lawn mower blades when you do your end-of-season mower maintenance.

#### Long Season (sunbelt states)

- Continue spraying BTK (*Bacillus thuringiensis* vr. *kurstaki*) on cabbage family plants if you have caterpillar problems.
- Fertilize winter vegetables generously where the soil has already supported many earlier harvests.
- Provide good wind protection for winter vegetable crops.
- Plant a winter green manure crop on empty beds.
- Mulch bramble fruits as they go dormant.
- Work in AGGRAND Natural Organic Liquid Bonemeal and rich compost as you plant spring bulbs.
- Mark diseased tree limbs, but wait until they are dormant to begin pruning.

### December

#### Short Season (northern states)

- Make compost in a covered garbage can during winter. Be sure to add soil or commercially available microorganisms to speed decomposition.
- Keep watering perennials and newly planted trees until the ground freezes.
- Mulch orchard trees, shrubs, roses and other perennials once the ground has frozen.

#### Midlength Season (central states)

- Check stored potatoes, onions and other vegetables for signs of spoilage and throw out any rotten ones.
- Take soil samples for testing before the garden beds freeze solid.
- Keep watering perennials and newly planted trees until the ground freezes.
- Mulch orchard trees, shrubs, roses and other perennials once the ground has frozen.
- Spray orchard and ornamental trees with dormant oil if the weather allows.

#### Long Season (sunbelt states)

- Destroy diseased plants by burning or burying deeply in a hot compost heap, or put them in sealed containers for disposal with household trash.
- Take up black plastic mulch from vegetable beds and store it for the winter.
- Enrich the soil with AGGRAND Natural Organic Liquid Bonemeal and mulch any beds not planted in green manure crops.
- Fertilize perennials with compost and rock fertilizers as blooming ends; water plants well before dormancy sets in.
- Cut back chrysanthemums to six inches; cut straggly perennials to the ground.
- Get a head start on spring weeding by clearing weeds from beds now.
- Spray fruit and ornamental trees with dormant oil to control scale, spider mites and overwintering insect eggs.



- Begin winter pruning once trees are thoroughly dormant.
- Keep leaves raked off the lawn so the grass doesn't yellow.
- Sharpen lawn mower blades when you do your end-of-season mower maintenance.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at AGGRAND!*

## Time for a Live Christmas Tree

To properly maintain a live Christmas tree, first buy a potted evergreen of the size and variety you want at a nursery. Before the ground freezes, dig a hole for the tree, cover it with straw and store the soil from the hole somewhere it will not freeze. Keep your potted tree well watered the whole time and bring it inside a few days before Christmas. Now you can deco-



rate and enjoy it like any other Christmas tree. Your tree will think it's spring and start to grow new needles at the branch tips within a few days. Either take it out and plant it in that hole using the soil you set aside, or keep it inside near a sunny window and water it regularly until spring. In spring, plant it in the hole and water it in with AGGRAND 4-3-3.

## AGGRAND Soil Sample Kit

Fall, before the ground freezes, is a good time to take soil samples for nutrient analysis. The AGGRAND Soil Sample Kit (G-1374, \$1.00) includes everything you need to collect your sample. Complete instructions are included and it costs \$12.70 for a basic analysis of one sample. You'll send your sample to Midwest Labs in Omaha, Nebraska and they will send a copy of the

analysis to you and one to AGGRAND. We will review it and send you a copy of the AGGRAND Fertility Guide showing you which AGGRAND fertilizer products to use. The results should arrive within a few weeks and you'll have plenty of time to plan your garden and fertilizing schedule accordingly.

## Poinsettia Points

Poinsettias are native to Central Mexico. Their colorful parts are not actually flowers but leaf-like bracts. The poinsettia can grow 10 feet tall outdoors in mild winter areas.

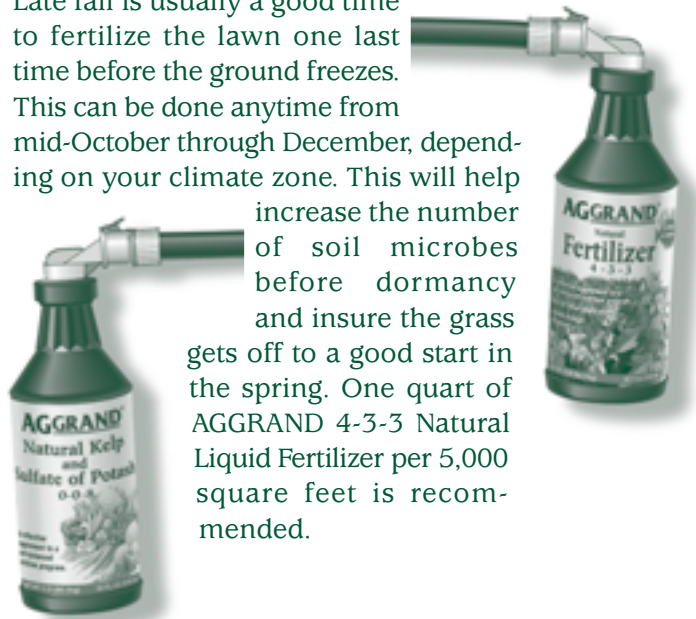
While indoors, they are best kept in moist, but not wet, soil near a sunny window. Once a poinsettia is blooming, it should not be moved to a different location. It will not adapt well to sudden temperature changes.

To maintain leaf color and production use AGGRAND Natural Fertilizer at 2 oz. per gallon of water and one half ounce AGGRAND Natural Kelp and Sulfate of Potash per gallon of water once a month. This will help keep poinsettias pretty well into March.



## Late Season Fertility Boost

Late fall is usually a good time to fertilize the lawn one last time before the ground freezes. This can be done anytime from mid-October through December, depending on your climate zone. This will help increase the number of soil microbes before dormancy and insure the grass gets off to a good start in the spring. One quart of AGGRAND 4-3-3 Natural Liquid Fertilizer per 5,000 square feet is recommended.



**Write to AGGRAND with your testimonials and suggestions**

*Send to:*

**AMSOIL INC. • Attn: AGGRAND Department • AMSOIL Building • Superior, WI 54880**

or fax us at (715) 392-5225 or (715) 392-5267