**Q’s & A’s**

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Q. Is there any herbicide that will control rescue grass and or rye grass in a lawn?

A. It is difficult to control it in the lawn. The best you can do is to keep the weeds mowed to prevent seed production. Next year on or about September 1, apply a pre-emergent herbicide such as Amaze or XL.

Q. What is the difference between top-dressing and compost? Is one better to use?

A. Top-dressing is simply a mix of compost and sand. Compost is the active ingredient and sand is filler. Since the two products cost about the same, I think compost is the better value. The only time top dressing (with sand) would be preferable is if the application is partially designed to fill low spots. Sand is the better fill.

Q. Should we expect our Mexican white oak to drop its leaves every year like live oak? If it does, is it a problem?

A. Mexican white oak will drop its leaves some years in spring but not on a regular schedule like live oak. Most years the Mexican white oak drops and replaces leaves a few at a time.

Q. In your opinion, what are the best tomatoes to plant in our area?

A. My favorite tomato is “Tycoon.” It is a heat setter, is productive, is consistent, and is very disease resistant.

The new Rodeo tomato “Tygress” is very similar to Tycoon but is not nematode resistant. Other good tomatoes are BHN 968 (Cherry Surprise), Celebrity, Phoenix, Solar Fire, 444, 602, and Surefire.

Q. Our cyclamen have declined quickly this year. Is it because it has been such a warm winter?

A. The temperature has been moderate so heat is probably not the problem unless the bed is in the sun? Have you kept them well watered? They are not xeriscape plants.

My problem with cyclamen is always that the crown is not flexible, so if one of my dogs, a raccoon or even a squirrel steps on them, the crown breaks from the root system. You may have the same issue this year.

Q. Is it too late to pant bluebonnet seedlings? They are on sale at the nursery.

A. Planted this late, they won’t bloom as much as they would if planted earlier but if the price is right, get them in the ground.