

Pests - Chafer Grubs

Chafer Grubs - are larvae insects similar to Leatherjackets. They eat and damage the roots of your grass, causing your garden to lose its lush feel. On top of this, because Chafer Grubs are larvae, that also means that they are the infant (or larval) stage of the Chafer Beetle.

What are the signs of Chafer Grubs in your lawn - patches in your lawn, typically yellow or brown in colour.

When checking under the lawn, a large number of grubs can be found in the soil.

Please note that Chafer Grubs are around 1.5cm long and feature a cream body with an orange head.

Knowing this will help you to differentiate them from Leatherjackets.

If there is a large number of adult Chafer Beetles in your garden around May or June, this is generally a good warning sign that you'll have issues in the near future.

You'll find Chafer Grubs appearing between May and August.

Chafer Grubs have a lot in common with Leatherjackets. There really isn't a lot you can do in terms of preventing a rise in Chafer Grubs. Instead, you have to deal with them once they have appeared.

To do this, you should start by peeling back any damaged sections of your lawn to locate and remove any of the larvae that you can see. From there, you can actually let the birds have a field day as they are great for natural pest control.

On top of this, using a parasitic nematode called "Heterogabditis megidis", you will be able to specifically target Chafer Grubs.

Using this type of biological treatment, you will be able to kill off the Chafer Grubs that have infested your garden. The fact that these treatments are available at garden centres makes this even easier!

Just make sure you read and follow the instructions on the box. Finally, once you have gotten rid of the grubs that are already there, you can start scarifying and aerating your garden.

That will help to minimise any future appearance of Chafer Grubs