

Puzzler Answer: Insta-Lawn

RAY: This guy has a new house built. As luck would have it, his entire backyard is just dirt, and he's planning on having a big Fourth of July celebration. So he goes to the local nursery, and he says to the guy, "Look, I've got to buy some grass seed," he said, "because it's almost June 1 and I've got to have this party on the Fourth of July weekend. I want a yard full of grass!"

TOM: Yeah. "Sod," they tell him.

RAY: Sod's too expensive; can't afford that--too much money. He says, "Well, how much is seed?" And they discuss various options, and then finally the fellow at the nursery says, "Hey! We have this new product," he said. "It just came in a few months ago; you may be interested in it. It's a plug of grass. It looks about the size of your fist. You plant this in your lawn in a central location, and every day it doubles in size. You only need one."

He said, "You mean, if I plant this thing on June 1, by June 30 I'll have a lawn?" And the guy says, "Well, according to my calculations, no problem." He said, "And then what you have to do is spray it with this arrester spray, so it doesn't subsume your car."

TOM: Oh, the driveway...yeah, sure.

RAY: And the guy says, "You're sure you did the math correctly?" The guy says, "I'm telling you -- plant one of these and in 30 days, you'll have a full lawn in your backyard." And he says, "Great, but just to be on the safe side, I want two."

So, the question is: If in fact one would give him a lawn in 30 days, what day must he apply the arrester spray to stop it from subsuming his car, his garage and his kids if he uses two grass plugs?