



### *Lawn Maintenance Program*

- March 1 Before St. Augustine and Bermuda start actively growing, mow down to 1 inch and maintain at a 1 to 2 inch height. Remove grass clippings following this mowing to remove leaf litter and other debris.
- Scalp zoysiagrass down to 1.0 inch March 15 to April 1 and remove clippings. Then continue mowing at 1.5 inch height weekly. Do not remove grass clippings unless the grass made excessive growth since the last mowing.
- March 15-April 1 Fertilize bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass lawns in late March to early April and Buffalo and Zoysia in late April to early May with 1-0-0 ratio fertilizer at a rate of 1.0 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. (using a slow release source of nitrogen). This would be equivalent to 5 pounds of 21-0-0 or 7 pounds of 15-0-0 per 1,000 sq. ft. Water the lawn thoroughly after applying the fertilizer. If iron chlorosis is a problem, apply iron sulfate, iron chelate or another source of iron to the lawn. Note, iron will stain surfaces such as wood, concrete, metal, etc. Always follow label directions no matter which source of iron is used.
- April 1-15 Treat lawns with a bait for control of fire ants. If mounds are present in the lawn, treat the mounds with an insecticide 7 to 10 days after the application of the bait.
- Water the lawn as needed to prevent severe wilting of the turfgrass plants, but water thoroughly when irrigation is necessary. After watering, check the depth of water penetration. The soil should be wet to a depth of at least 4 inches. You may need to operate the sprinklers for 15 to 20 minute cycles at one hour intervals until the soil is wet to a depth of 4 inches. This procedure allows all the water to move into the soil rather than running off into the street.
- May 1-15 Fertilize bermudagrass at 1.0 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. For St. Augustinegrass grown in full sun apply 1.0 pounds of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. in late May to early June. For all grasses, repeat the March iron application on a monthly basis.
- Monitor grasses for any disease activity such as brown patch in St. Augustinegrass and dollar spot in bermudagrass. Treat with appropriate fungicide if a disease becomes active in the lawn.
- June 1-15 Check lawns for any insect activity. Use Talstar or Tempo for chinchbugs. For fire ant mounds use products such as Orthene or Talstar.
- July 15-30 Check lawns for grubs. Use a sharpshooter to remove a one square foot section of sod and examine the sod to a four inch depth. If more than 4 to 5 grubs per square foot are present, treat the lawn with an insecticide for control of the grubs. Follow label recommendation for control of grubs. The insecticide application must be watered in thoroughly for effective grub control.
- Examples:  
Merit (imidacloprid): Bayer Advanced Lawn Season Grub Control and Scotts Grub Ex.  
Mach II (halofenozide): Hi-Yield Kill-A-Grub and Spectracide Grub Stop.  
Dylox (trichlorfon): Bayer Advanced 24 Hour Grub Control and Hi-Yield 6.2 Granular Insecticide.

- August 1-15 Fertilize bermudagrass lawns with 1.0 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft.
- September 1 Apply a preemergent herbicide for the control of annual winter weeds in the lawn. Water the herbicide application in thoroughly as soon as possible.
- September 15-30 Monitor St. Augustinegrass and zoysiagrass lawns for brown patch activity. If brown patch becomes active, treat with one of the following fungicides:  
 PCNB: Hi-Yield Terraclor Granular Fungicide, Crompton Turfcide 10 G and Hi-Yield Turf and Ornamental Fungicide.  
 propiconazole: Fertilome Systemic Fungicide, Ortho Lawn Disease Control and Bonide Infuse  
 myclobutanil: Spectracide Immunox, Green Light Fung-Away Systemic Lawn Fungicide Granules and Fertilome F Stop.  
 thiophanate-methyl: Green Light Systemic Fungicide, Ferti-lome Halt Systemic Fungicide and Scotts Lawn Fungus Control.  
 If Take-All Root Rot becomes a problem treat with myclobutanil –see above list or propiconazole – see above list.
- October 1-15 Fertilize lawns with a 2-0-1 ratio fertilizer at 1.0 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. using a slow release source of nitrogen. This would be equivalent to 5 pounds of 20-0-10 per 1,000 sq. ft. Repeat iron application if iron chlorosis is a problem.
- November-  
January During the dormant stage, water the lawn every 4 to 5 weeks if adequate rainfall does not occur.
- Measure the lawn so that fertilizers and pesticides may be applied at the recommended rates per 1,000 sq ft.
- Always calibrate granular applicators and sprayers prior to applications of fertilizers and pesticides.

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