

## Spring/Fall Seeding Guide

Helpful Advice on How to Plant a New Yard

A beautiful lawn greatly enhances a home's overall appeal. While it may be one of the quieter elements in a design scheme, a carpet of rich, deep-green grass is a perfect canvas for dramatic shadows and silhouettes, and provides a natural backdrop for showier specimen plants. Suggested spring seeding dates for bluegrass and rye grass are April 1-April 30. Turf fescue should be seeded April 15-June 15. Fall seeding dates for bluegrass and rye grass: August 15-October 15. Turf fescue August 15-September 15.



### Steps for Successful Seeding

- 1.** Mow the area to be over-seeded to the height of about 2" aerate in a double or triple pass pattern to ensure ample holes for the seed to settle into. Apply Soil Activator to help reduce compaction and break down thatch.
- 2.** If spot seeding is all that is needed, remove the dead turf and fill the damaged area with topsoil to the proper depth.
- 3.** Refer to the Lanoha seed rate chart for the correct pounds of seed required for your over-seeding. Do not skimp on seed, results will be disappointing.
- 4A.** If spring seeding, Dimension, a unique pre-emergent can be safely applied 2 weeks after the turf grass seed has germinated. It will kill crabgrass seedlings as well as prevent grassy weeds if applied by mid May. A new product available is Mesotrionet (Tenacity) with a 21-22-4 starter fertilizer that can be applied at seeding. It will provide 6 weeks of control for crabgrass, dandelions, chickweed, purslane, ground ivy, and white clover.
- 4B.** If fall seeding, use a starter fertilizer if 40% or more of the area is exposed soil. Otherwise, apply a premium lawn food with iron over the seed area.
- 5.** Any open weave burlap or rolls of straw net can be used when seeding on slopes of banks. Clean straw can also be used to cover the seedbed.
- 6.** Water immediately after seeding and fertilizing. A deep watering of  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1" of water is suggested. Frequent light watering two or more times daily will ensure good seed germination. Continue this frequent light watering until the seed fully germinates and has been mowed once. Don't allow new grass to get too tall before mowing. Removing more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the length of the grass at any one time may stress the plants.
- 7.** Once the new grass has been mowed 3 times, you may safely use broadleaf weed control products and follow normal lawn care schedules for the rest of the season.
- 8.** A winterizer fertilizer should be applied to the entire lawn between October 15 and November 15. This should be applied after the final fall mowing. An application of winterizer ensures winter hardiness and thicker turf in the spring.



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