

## General Lawn Care Program for Bermuda & Zoysia Grasses

**March 1** - Apply a pre-emergent herbicide such as Balan, Betasan, or Dacthal for control of certain summer germinating seeds and grasses (i.e. crabgrass). Refer to label for reseeding restrictions.

**March 15** - Apply a broadleaf herbicide containing TRIMEC or similar herbicide combination for control of dandelions, chickweed, hebit, and certain other troublesome broadleaf seeds.

For best control apply when seeds are actively growing. Repeat application as specified on the label. Follow directions carefully and pay particular attention to label precautions referring to types of grasses that the herbicide can not be used on safely, temperature requirements, & the root zones of desirable trees & shrubs.

**April 1-15** - Mow grass low in order to remove last year's dead grass. Dethatch if thatch level reaches 1/2" or more. Apply a complete lawn food at manufacturers recommended rates. As grass begins to grow, mow no closer than 1 1/2". Raise the mowing height as temperatures become hotter during the summer.

**May 15 - June 1** - Seed Bermuda grass seed if necessary (night time temperatures should be steadily 600 or above). If a pre-emergent was used in February or March, check to see if enough time has passed in order to safely sow the seed so germination will not be hampered.

Apply MSMA, DSMA, or a similar type of crabgrass killer to kill certain noxious grasses (i.e. Crabgrass, Dallisgrass, Goosegrass, and certain other grassy weeds). Temperatures should be 85° and above. Make 2 to 3 applications at 7-14 day intervals. Do not water for at least 24 hrs. After application, follow directions carefully and pay particular attention to label precautions referring to types of grasses the herbicide can not be used on safely.

**June 1, July 1, August 1** - Apply at monthly intervals approximately 3# of Ammonium Nitrate per 1000 sq. ft. or 2# Urea per 1000 sq. ft.

**Late June or early July** - If desired, a single application of a fertilizer containing slow release nitrogen may be applied in lieu of the quick-release nitrogens.

Water lawn thoroughly if rain does not occur for 2 weeks. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage deep root growth. During a severe drought and extremely high temperatures more frequent waterings will probably be necessary.

**Late August or Early September** - Apply Betasan or a similar pre-emergent to control poa annua (annual bluegrass) and certain other winter germinating weeds and grasses.

**Mid-September** - Apply a winterizer type fertilizer to encourage root growth and help prevent winter damage.

**October, November, December, January** - Have a soil ph test run some time during this period in order to determine if an application of agricultural lime is needed.

Please Note: This is a general lawn program found to be successful in this area, but could be altered in order to deal with specific lawn problems that could arise.