

LAWN PROGRAM FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF COOL-SEASON GRASSES IN SHADY SITUATIONS

SEPTEMBER -This is the best time of year to begin the establishment of a shady lawn. The seedbed should be prepared 4 to 6 inches deep. Incorporate lime (if needed) and a non-burning fertilizer recommended at seeding time. Apply tall fescue at the rate of 7 to 10 lbs. per 1000 square feet, Kentucky bluegrass and creeping red fescue at the rate of 3 to 4 lbs. per 1000 square feet, or Shady Lawn Mix at the rate of 5 lbs. per 1000 square feet. Newly seeded areas should be kept evenly moist on a daily basis until even germination has been attained.

OCTOBER - Apply agricultural lime if needed, for established shady lawn turf.

OCTOBER 15 - NOVEMBER 1 - Apply a well-balanced lawn fertilizer or the equivalent at recommended rates. Keep leaves off of the grass as best you can. Leaves allowed to stay on shady lawn turfs for a prolonged period of time have been found to smother and melt out the existing shady lawn turf.

MARCH - Overseed existing shady lawns at one-half the recommended rates for establishing new turfs. This is the second best time of the year to seed cool-season grasses. If establishment of a new turf is desired, follow the directions for new seeding in September. If no seeding is required during this period then apply a pre-emergent such as Balan to prevent certain summer germinating weeds and grasses. Apply a well-balanced lawn fertilizer at recommended rates.

MID MARCH - Apply spot treatments of recommended broadleaf herbicides to control dandelions, henbit, chickweed, etc. Repeat applications could be necessary in 2 weeks.

CAUTION:

- (A) Be extremely careful when applying broadleaf herbicides near the root zones of trees and shrubs since over application could cause injury.
- (B) Do not apply broadleaf herbicides to newly seeded areas since injury may occur.
- (C) Do not seed into areas on which a broadleaf herbicide has recently been used. Always read the label to determine these and other restrictions and precautions of which you need to be aware.

MID APRIL - Apply a well-balanced lawn fertilizer at recommended rates. Be sure that the shady lawn grasses are being mowed high (3" preferably) since they need a greater amount of leaf surface to manufacture food through photosynthesis.

MAY - JUNE -If necessary, make spot treatments of a recommended crabgrass killer to control grassy type weeds. One or two repeat applications are usually necessary 7 to 10 days apart. Follow the direction very carefully since over spraying will most likely result in injury to your turf.

SUMMER -This is the period of the year that the shady lawn grasses really suffer and quite often burn out. Do not feed the lawn to attempt to accelerate growth. Keep the lawn mowed as high as possible and keep the lawn mower blade sharp. These grasses will require a lot of water to keep them alive during the summer, but you must try to water deeply and as infrequently as possible to encourage as deep a root growth as possible. {NOTE: During periods of extreme heat and drought more frequent watering may become necessary to keep the grass alive}.

SEPTEMBER -Overseed your existing shady lawn at previously recommended seeding rates and feed with a well-balanced lawn fertilizer to rejuvenate your existing shady lawn. Follow program as outlined above.

This program is a general outline and could require altering to meet specific needs or problems.