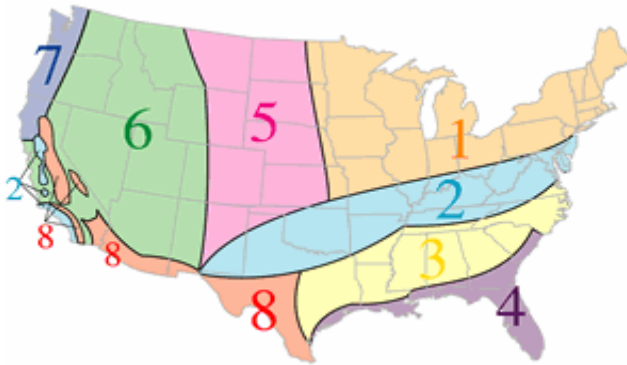


What Area are We In?



United States
Zones For Grass
Adaptation

- 1 Cool - Humid
- 2 Cool - Warm Season Transition
- 3 Warm - Humid
- 4 Tropical
- 5 Cool - Semi-Arid Plains
- 6 Semi-Arid Inter-Mountain
- 7 Cool - Humid
- 8 Warm - Arid

Turf Maintenance Calendar

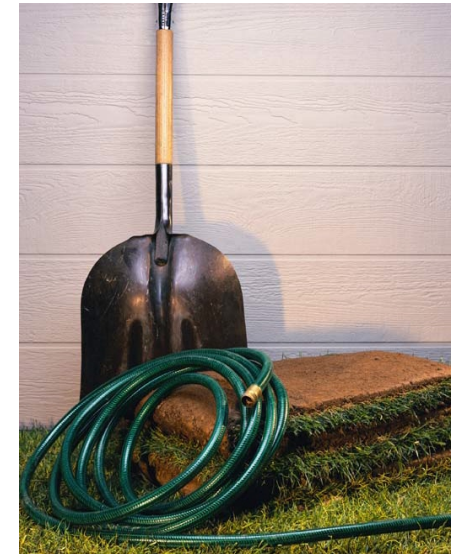
Zone	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	S											
	F											
2	S											
	F											
3	S											
	F											
4	S											
	F											
5	S											
	F											
6	S											
	F											
7	S											
	F											
8	S											
	F											

S - Seeding F - Fertilizing

Turf Tips To Maintain A Beautiful Lawn

1. Test the soil to check pH and nutrient content. For a fee, local extension services will be able to process the soil sample and determine which nutrients should be amended to the soil. Perform any recommended corrective measures at this time.
2. Check your spreader to make sure it is working properly. Avoid the use of spreaders which apply the fertilizer in narrow or uneven concentrated bands. Always calibrate the spreader according to the manufacturer's directions prior to use.
3. Inconsistencies in watering habits and patterns are the most common cause of failure during the establishment of a lawn area. It is important to remember that the root system of a new grass plant is as small as the visible shoot portion of the plant. Constant exposure to the warm sun quickly dries out the soil surface as well as young developing roots.
4. Increase the height of cut during hot summer months and in shady areas. Raising the height of cut at least one inch allows more surface area for individual grass plants. The grass plants will be stronger and more tolerant of stressful conditions, especially where little sunlight can penetrate through tree canopies or during the hot, dry days of summer.
5. Apply dandelion and broadleaf weed control to control dandelions and other broadleaf weeds where hand removal is not appropriate. To control most weeds while simultaneously fertilizing the lawn, apply weed & feed on actively growing weeds after the third or fourth mowing.

Turf Maintenance Tips & Calendar



2302 SE Creekview
Ste #6
Ankeny IA 50021



515-965-4425—Phone
515-965-4427—Fax
800-810-1618—Watts

DES MOINES
FORAGE & TURF
SEED CORP.

Establishing A New Lawn

1. Test Soil for pH and nutrient content.
2. Till or Loosen the soil. Rake and remove debris such as grass clumps and small stones, leveling out any uneven areas in order to insure proper seed to soil contact.
3. Apply a starter fertilizer such as 13-13-13 available at Des Moines Forage & Turf Seed.
4. Spread Grass Seed evenly over the area without skips or misses. A more uniform application can be made with broadcast (rotary) type spreaders by spreading half the required amount over the area and then applying the remaining half at right angles.
5. Lightly Rake or Roll the soil surface to ensure good seed-soil contact. This contact is critical for proper germination and establishment.
6. Water areas frequently (several times a day) with a mist or light spray to insure uniform emergence. It is extremely critical that young seedlings not be allowed to dry out. The soil surface needs to be constantly moist until the seedlings are approximately 1" in height. About that time, watering should become deeper and less frequent. One inch of water every 2-3 days is optimum until grass has been cut three times. At that time, 1" of water per week is ideal.

Reseeding An Established Lawn

1. Mow the lawn very closely and rake vigorously to remove debris. If excess thatch is present, it must be removed.
2. Loosen soil in bare spots or thin areas.
3. Fertilize with 13-13-13 Starter fertilizer at the recommended rate.
4. Spread seed and rake lightly into loosened soil.
5. Follow a deep and infrequent watering schedule (1" per week). Early morning is the optimum time to water. It allows the soil to become moist before the hottest time of day, giving grass plants adequate time to retrieve water. Watering in the early evening or any time at night is NOT recommended. Moisture in the evening, especially in the warm, humid summer months, can allow the spread of troublesome summertime turf grass diseases. Water any bare spots frequently as noted in Step 5 of "Establishing A New Lawn".

Renovating An Established Lawn

1. Mow the lawn closely and rake if excessive thatch is present.
2. Remove existing vegetation with a total-kill herbicide like Roundup.
3. Prepare Soil for Seeding after approximately 10 days. (refer to steps 1-5 in "Establishing a New Lawn" for seeding and fertilizing instructions.)

How to Care For Your Lawn

GERMINATION: Germination time for most turf grass varies from 7-21 days, depending on soil temperatures and seed species. Soil moisture levels must be maintained to ensure uniform seedling emergence. So once the watering process has started, it must be continued.

SEEDING: Select the lawn seed mixture that best suits your needs. While lawns can successfully be started in both spring and fall, the fall is recommended. In the fall, there is less competition from annual grassy weeds, such as crabgrass, that typically pose a problem in late spring seedlings. Also, the more moderate air and soil temperatures encourage quick germination and establishment of your grass seedlings.

MOWING: Grass should be cut for the first time when it has reached 2 1/2". For optimum health, a 2 1/3" height of cut is recommended. Mower blades should be kept sharp. Increase the height of cut during hot summer months and in shady areas.

FERTILIZING: For new seedlings use starter fertilizer 13-13-13. For spring seeding, use 23-03-08 Crabgrass Control with Dimension to prevent the germination of crabgrass without harming the establishing grass plants. For established areas, use 28-03-04 Lawn Food to provide the nutrients to feed and maintain a healthy lawn. One application will not only green up the turf, but it will sustain it during the spring months.