



# Weaver Plant Nursery

## Basic Care for Established St. Augustine Grass Lawns

- Mowing height:** Mow at 2" to 3" tall. Mow often enough so that no more than 30% of plant height is removed at any one cutting.
- Fertilization:** 25-0-0 with at least 50% slow release nitrogen in soils with excess phosphorus (clay). 24-6-12 with at least 50% slow release nitrogen in other soils (sand & loam). Apply April 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, and September 1<sup>st</sup>. Suspend if fungal disease is present.
- Irrigation:** With irrigation system in manual mode, water as soil becomes dry. Water deeply and no more often than about every three or four days. Usually requires about 6" to 8" of water per month, but this will vary based upon numerous factors. Water in early morning hours to reduce the likelihood of fungal disease problems.
- Weed control:** **DO NOT USE WEED AND FEED!!!!!!**  
Pre-emergent weed control:
- Dimension applied March 1-10 for summer grassy weeds.
  - Dimension re-applied June 1-10 for summer grassy weeds.
  - Dimension applied Sept. 1-10 for winter grassy weeds.
  - (Optional) Gallery applied Sept. 1-10 for winter broadleaf weeds.
- Post-emergent weed control:
- Labeled herbicide containing 2,4-D to control broadleaf weeds.
  - Halosulfuron or Sulfentrazone product to control nutsedge when actively growing during warmer months (2+ applications required).
- Fungal diseases:** Take all root rot (TARR)—occur spring into early summer. Irregular yellow patches in turf that die out and spread. Roots are severely weakened. Treat by applying ½" or more of Canadian peat moss over lawn surface. Fatal when untreated.  
Gray leaf spot—occurs in summer. Gray-brown lesions form on runners and leaves leaving yellow patches in lawn. Treat with myclobutanil or propiconazole. Can be fatal if untreated.  
Brown patch—occurs late summer and fall. Circular yellow areas in lawn turn brown and leaves rot away from runners. Treat with myclobutanil or propiconazole.
- Insect pests:** Chinch bugs—cause dried, brown irregular patches, first appearing in the sunniest areas of the lawn. Insects are black with white diamonds. Treat with bifenthrin, deltamethrin, or imidocloprid.  
White grubs—destroy grass roots by chewing. Treat with imidocloprid only when four or more grubs per square foot are present. *Do not treat without first verifying that the threshold population is present.*
- Variety information:** Use only Raleigh St. Augustine. Avoid Common St. Augustine, Floratam, and Seville due to disease and cold hardiness problems. Some other varieties warrant further trials.

Information contained in this guide is prepared by Dan Weaver, Texas Master Certified Nursery Professional #5338, for areas near Cleburne, Texas. This guide is prepared for informational purposes only and all responsibility of use lies with the user. Always read and obey product labels prior to use of any chemical or fertilizer. *Revised June 2023.*