



Early Season Bermuda

Getting a jump start on your Bermuda has huge benefits that carry from Spring through Fall.

Mowing

Bermuda grass should be worked down to about two inches in length until the last frost for the season has past. The lawn will most likely go through a green up and brown out phase until that last frost usually in late March. Once the last frost has past, you may scalp the lawn but be careful not to dig into the soil. This process will encourage new growth and remove any damaged or dead material left over from dormancy. Be sure to use a sharp blade as to not damage the grass blades or pull up soil. You will gradually bring the grass back up throughout the year.

Aeration

Core aeration is the process of punching small holes in the turf to

alleviate compaction, thus, allowing air to get to the root system. Furthermore, the holes from aeration will allow valuable nutrients to get down in the soil helping to promote deep, strong root growth. Also, this will help to correct problems associated with poor infiltration and drainage. Aeration should be done once to twice a season (Spring and Fall) for optimal results but once a year will be fine.

Overseeding/Fertilization

After you scalp the lawn, overseeding and fertilizing your lawn is a great combination to help thicken, rejuvenate and fill in bare spots in your lawn. This will want to be done in combination with aeration or dethatching to make sure the seeds have good contact with the soil. The lawn may be mowed after, but you will want to limit mowing to get the seedlings time to grow to mowing height. Water once or twice a day depending on weather conditions until mowing height has been achieved.

Irrigation

Bermuda is a very drought tolerate grass. It only needs about 1 inch of water per week. The best time to water is early in the morning and avoid watering before dark. Paying attention to changing weather conditions is imperative to avoid overwatering. A simple way to see if your lawn needs water is to walk across it. If the grass does not recover and shows footprints, water the next morning. Overwatering and/or watering in the evening leaves the grass susceptible to pests and diseases.