

Weed Control

When new sod is laid, weeds that have been in the soil waiting may start popping up due to the increased water and fertilization; so it's good to have a plan of action to prevent and control what you can.

To keep your grass looking fresh, use weed control products that are marked safe for 'Floratam' St. Augustinegrass. Such products are available as liquids for broadcast or spot spraying, and as combination products as part of a granular fertilizer. Pre-emergent (or preventative) products are recommended early in the spring, followed by post-emergent (or curative) products if weeds are spotted the rest of the year. Always follow product labels and local regulations.

While many weeds can be controlled with the above products, there are invasive, grassy weeds like common bermuda, torpedograss or tropical signalgrass which can be nearly impossible to remove from conventional lawns without killing the desired grass. Fortunately, you can call a lawn care professional to remove such weeds from your Scotts ProVista lawn without harming the turf.

Insects

No matter what type of sod you have, there are insects that find it particularly irresistable. You may not see these pests, but you will be able to see the damage they do to the lawn. Wondering what insects to be on the lookout for?

- Sod Webworms (small, rice-sized, clear/green worms that feed on leaf tissue) prevalent in summer and fall with preference for newly established turf.
- Chinch Bugs (small, pinhead-sized black and white winged bugs that feed on stems) prevalent in spring and summer.
 The damage looks like dried out or burned, irregular-shaped patches of grass that can spread if untreated.
- Mole Crickets (similar in size to a peanut, brown in color, feed on the grass root system) prevalent year round.
 The damage looks like dried out grass with loose soil and visible, underground tunnels.

If you think you're dealing with insect issues, you can try doing a search on the internet to find imagery to confirm your suspicion. If you're unsure or want help solving the problem, we recommend calling a professional to assess your lawn and guide you through next steps.