

Lawn Seed Mixes

Product Guide

Preparation

Plant lawns in fall, well before frost, or in early spring, when the ground begins to warm up. The secret to a great lawn is great soil preparation! Now is your big chance—you can't move the soil once the lawn is planted. Always conduct a soil test before installing a lawn to plan soil amending before seeding. If possible, work up the area you intend to plant at least a month ahead of time. Add soft rock phosphate at 5 lbs per 100 sq.ft. Apply gypsum at 3 lbs per 100 sq. ft. on loose friable soil and 5-10 lbs per 100 sq.ft. on tight or clay soil. Acidic soils (e.g. Sierra foothill soil) will also benefit from the addition of oystershell lime to supply more calcium and raise the pH (use 3-5 lbs per 100 sq.ft.). Add a good quality compost (not the sawdust or redwood and cedar-based on manure or plant residues) or composted manures, 1/4"-1" deep over the entire area. Till or dig all materials thoroughly into the top 3" of soil. Work the soil until it is fairly fine, and remove the rocks.

For organic lawn fertilizers, see our Main Catalog or website. Water the area to encourage the germination of weeds before you plant. Remove the weeds and lightly irrigate once more to evenly moisten the soil. Rake and level the area, allowing for drainage if necessary in high rainfall zones. When you've got the area as perfect as you can make it, it's time to seed. Once again, remember, you cannot move the soil much once it's planted! We suggest adding New Zealand or Dutch White Clover to your lawn or turf mix, at a rate of 1/4-1/2 lb per 1000 sq.ft. This will add lushness and increase the nitrogen fixation in the soil. Keep in mind that clover can attract gophers to your lawn.

Seeding

Use a broadcast seed spreader for best results. To be sure you're not over-seeding, spread the seed lightly to start, and walk in parallel paths back and forth across the area. When you've used up about half the seed, begin spreading in paths at right angles from the first direction.

When you've spread all the seed evenly, it's time to roll the area using a water-filled roller (you can rent one at most rental yards) or lightly rake the seed about 1/4" into the soil. Keep people and animals off until the lawn gets established (4-6 weeks).

Ongoing Care

Begin irrigating with light but regular waterings (up to 3 times per day if the weather is very warm). Try to keep the area evenly moist at the surface, so the seeds can quickly sprout. In warm weather, germination should be noticeable within a week. Re-seed any areas with poor germination. After the entire area has begun to sprout, very gradually reduce the watering frequency (until you reach intervals of 4-7 days, in moderate climates) and increase the length of irrigation. By watering deep you will encourage deep rooting, which will result in thick stands and disease resistance. Watering shallowly and often will create a weak lawn which requires constant attention. Wait to mow for the first time until the grass is at least 4"-6" tall. Adjust your mower to its highest setting. You can reduce the grass height after the lawn becomes well established, but we recommend never cutting lower than 1-1/2".



P.O. Box 2209 • 125 Clydesdale Court • Grass Valley, CA 95945
Order Toll-Free (888) 784-1722 • Fax (530) 272-4794
Entire contents © Copyright 2009 Peaceful Valley Farm Supply, Inc. All rights reserved.
Page 1 of 1. Revised July 24, 2009.

Limitation of Remedy

We warrant to the extent of the purchase price only that the seeds or plants sold hereunder are as described on the label within recognized tolerances. No other warranty is given, expressed or implied, (1) of the merchantability or fitness of the seeds or plants for any particular purpose, or (2) against loss due to any cause. We cannot accept any responsibility for the many uncontrollable growing and climatic conditions (soil preparation, fertilization, weed and pest control, temperature control, irrigation...etc.) that must be met to insure the success of your crop(s).

See our extensive product line and more informative literature at:

www.GrowOrganic.com

Ask your fellow gardeners and our amazing staff your organic gardening questions. Share your stories and experiences, send us your pictures, and share your love for organic growing on our Blog:

intheloop.groworganic.com

