

## FERTILIZER FACTS

We offer three types of fertilizers depending on your needs:

- A) Starter (8-32-16) which is good to use before seed or sod. It provides seedlings and new sod the nutrients it doesn't have roots to search for.
- B) Spring/summer (25-5-10) fertilizer which is for maintenance during the spring and summer months.
- C) Fall (20-5-20) fertilizer which is good to prepare your lawn for the winter.

A general rule of thumb is that fertilizer lasts from 4-8 weeks in the soil depending on its type and the environmental conditions.

## SEED FACTS

We offer the following seeds depending on your needs:

- A) Premium Sod Blend (100% Kentucky Bluegrass) which is optimal in full sun and provides a pure stand of grass. This is what we use in our fields to grow our sod!
- B) Premium Sun Mix (50% Kentucky Bluegrass, 25% Ryegrass and 25% Fine Fescue) which works in full or partial sun and has a variety of grasses for a quick establishment or to blend well with a pre-existing lawn.
- C) Sun/Shade Mix (70% Fescue, 20% Ryegrass and 10% Bluegrass) which may help you grow grass in areas that are a bit shadier with a variety of grasses to promote a versatile stand.

Whichever seed you choose, ultimately how you apply and nurture it and what Mother Nature throws at you will determine how well it will grow.

## DISCLAIMER

This pamphlet is meant to provide general recommendations. Weather and soil conditions can vary the efficacy of these practices.



# HOW TO OVERSEED YOUR LAWN

17525 JANE ST., KING, ON L7B 0J6

LOCAL: 905-727-2100

TOLL FREE: 1-877-727-2100

TORONTO: 416-364-5700

[info@zandersod.com](mailto:info@zandersod.com)

[www.zandersod.com](http://www.zandersod.com)

## **STEP 1**

Measure the area you would like to overseed and buy the appropriate quantity of seed, soil and fertilizer. If you are doing patches and not your whole lawn, try and measure as best you can. 1 kg of our different seed blends will cover approximately the following:

- A) Premium Sod Blend - 2,000 sq ft**
- B) Premium Sun Mix - 1,100 sq ft**
- C) Sun/Shade Mix - 734 sq ft**

To prepare your lawn, thoroughly rake the areas to be overseeded to remove any debris.

## **STEP 2**

For best results, use a BigYellowBag of our Nature's Blend. Your goal should be to coat the seeds in soil but not disturb their distribution. For a guideline on using this product, 1 cubic yard will cover approximately 600-700 sq ft for a layer of ½ inch of soil to bare ground. This coverage area will adjust according to how much is bare and how much is an area with thin grass.

## **STEP 3**

To ensure the successful growth of the seed, use a starter fertilizer such as our 8-32-16. 1 kg of this will cover 438 sq ft. Measure it out according to your earlier square footage measurements. Place it in either a hand-held or walk-behind spreader. You can pick up a hand-held spreader at our showroom. Set the spreader on a low setting (small opening) and go over the area multiple times in several different directions until the fertilizer is gone. This is the best way to achieve the most even distribution possible. If you find the fertilizer is coming out too fast on your first pass, lower the setting and continue. Fertilizing at this time is important because the seedlings aren't able to reach for food with no roots at time of germination. Having the fertilizer close by allows them to get the nutrition they need to survive.

## **STEP 4**

Measure out the seed needed based on the square footage of your area. Follow the same process as the fertilizer in Step 3.

## **STEP 5**

Using a leaf rake, lightly mix the seed, soil and fertilizer to achieve good seed-to-soil contact. You are trying to coat the seed in soil but not disturb the distribution of the seed.

## **STEP 6**

Now that the area is finished, water it until the seed bed is moist, but not flooded. Flooding it will displace the seed and potentially drown them. Light and frequent watering is best at first. You will need to water twice daily for the first 2 weeks. Then, you may move to once a day for a week and then every other day for a week. After that, it will be as needed. This will also release the fertilizer into the soil but not let it leach down to where the seed can't access it. Be mindful that seed germinates at different times depending on the variety. Kentucky Bluegrass is 15-30 days, Fescue is 7-14 days and Ryegrass is 3-5 days. These are in optimal conditions. The soil needs to be consistently at 12-15°C to see any germination.

## **BEST TIME TO OVERSEED?**

Spring and Fall are the best times to overseed as the temperatures are cooler and there is more rainfall. The best time in Spring is late April to mid May and for Fall it is late August, early September. Summer seeding is difficult as weather tends to be hot and dry. Mature plants are in survival mode. Imagine a seedling trying to survive and grow. Extra diligent watering and care is needed, on your part, to keep the soil moist during the summer months.

## **WHY OVERSEED?**

A healthy lawn is always the best defence against weeds. They tend to thrive in areas where the grass is thin and bare. By thickening your lawn and making it as strong as possible, you can decrease weed establishment.