

Lawn Seed Information









4759 Township Road 366 Millersburg Ohio 44654 www.meritseed.com 1-800-553-4713



PRO-TURF MIX

Description:

Pro-Turf Mix is a blend of cool-season, long-lived, highly palatable, perennial grass with a smooth, soft, green to dark green appearance. It spreads via rhizomes to form a dense sod and grows best during cool, moist weather on well-drained, fertile soils. It creates excellent turf density and has good mowing quality. Adaptable to a wide variety of climate range and has good resistance and a very low maintenance lawn.

FORMULATION: Kentucky Bluegrass, Hood Chewing Fescue, Creeping Red Fescue, Kokomo II Perennial, Cabo II Perennial Ryegrass

CHARACTERISTICS: Blends well with existing yards, dark green in color, Great heat and drought tolerance, Fast spring green up, Good resistance to leaf rust.

New Seedling Rate: 8-10lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 320-420 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 7-10 days Mowing Frequency: 2 x week

Traffic Tolerance: good

Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: low-med

Shade Tolerance: good Cold Tolerance: good Drought Tolerance: good

MERIT SELECT MIX

Description:

Merit Select is a blend of Tall Fescue and premium Bluegrass making it a fine stemmed and dark green in appearance. Tall Fescue lawns are slower going into dormancy and stay green longer into the summer. Merit Select is an excellent blend that will ensure a great drought tolerance and a strong disease resistance.

FORMULATION: Escalante Tall Fescue, Marrakech Tall Fescue, Memphis Tall Fescue, Milagro Bluegrass

CHARACTERISTICS: Very adaptable to variety of climates, Medium dark green blends well, Great heat and drought tolerance, Fast spring green up, Good resistance to stem and leaf rust.

New Seedling Rate: 8-10 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 320-420 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 7-10 days Mowing Frequency: 2 x week Traffic Tolerance: very good Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: low-med

Shade Tolerance: good Cold Tolerance: very good Drought Tolerance: very good



SHADY LAWN MIX

Description:

Shady Lawn Mix is a blend that will create a top quality turf designed for shady areas, whether it is in your backyard or in a wooded campground, will create a lush green lawn even in the shade. All varieties selected for this mixture are very low maintenance. A high mowing cut is recommended. Fescue has a high tolerance for cold temperatures and shade, moderate tolerance for drought and wear.

FORMULATION: Kentucky Bluegrass, Chewings Fescue, Creeping Red Fescue, Kokomo II Perennial, Cabo II Perennial Rye grass, Fiji Perennial Rye grass

CHARACTERISTICS: Moderate tolerance for drought, Low tolerance for heat, Performs well in northern states, Prefers shadier and cooler areas, Very low maintenance, A high mowing cut recommended.

New Seedling Rate: 6-8 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 270-360 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 10-14 days Mowing Frequency: 1 x week Traffic Tolerance: very good Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: low-med Shade Tolerance: very good Cold Tolerance: very good Drought Tolerance: very good

STADIUM MIX

Description:

Stadium Mix is a blend that will create a top quality turf designed for extra traffic, whether it is on a ball field or in your front lawn. All varieties selected for this mixture show very good to excellent ratings for wear and traffic tolerance and over-all turf quality. It establishes quickly in spring; thrives in the summer and is aggressive into the fall. Ideal for campgrounds and play areas. Heavy traffic Durability.

FORMULATION: Patagonia Turf Type Tall Fescue, Kentucky Bluegrass, Jackson Annual Rye grass, Creeping Red Fescue, Kokomo II Perennial, Cabo II Perennial Rye grass, Fiji Perennial Rye grass

CHARACTERISTICS: Performs well in northern states, Excellent drought tolerance, Has excellent seeding vigor, Quick establishment, Mows cleanly at low heights, Does well in heavy traffic, Very low maintenance.

New Seedling Rate: 6-8 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 270-360 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 10-14 days Mowing Frequency: 1 x week Traffic Tolerance: very good Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: low-med

Shade Tolerance: good Cold Tolerance: very good Drought Tolerance: very good



LANDSCAPERS MIX

Description:

Landscapers Mix is a blend with good seedling vigor, fast establishment, and excellent wear tolerance. An excellent spring green-up with great heat and drought resistance makes it widely adapted throughout the cool humid regions of North America. Good resistance to most turf grass foliage diseases with a dense turf, that is able to withstand lower mowing. Its aggressive rhizomes and good tillering ability allows for rapid filling of bare areas. Great wear resistance and slow vertical growth makes it suitable for parks, playgrounds, home owners, and highway departments.

FORMULATION: Clearwater Kentucky Bluegrass, Fiji Perennial Rye grass, Kokomo II Perennial, Cabo II Perennial Rye grass

CHARACTERISTICS: High turf quality, Medium dark green color, Good diseased resistance, Great heat and drought tolerant, Excellent seedling vigor, Fast establishment, Excellent for over seeding

New Seedling Rate: 8-10 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 320-420 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 7-10 days Mowing Frequency: 2 x week

Traffic Tolerance: good

Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: medium

Shade Tolerance: good Cold Tolerance: good Drought Tolerance: good

CONTRACTORS MIX

Description:

Contractors Mix is a blend that will germinate fast, usually from 5 to 14 days in good weather and soil conditions and seed/soil contact. This kind of fast germination and growth makes it an ideal niche in the industry to provide stabilization green coverage. It is very vigorous, with fast establishment and fill-in which makes it ideal for banks and ditches. It establishes itself quickly and as a dense turf, and can withstand lower mowing heights.

FORMULATION: Annual Ryegrass, Kentucky Bluegrass, Creeping Red Fescue, Kokomo II Perennial, Cabo II Perennial Ryegrass, Fiji Perennial Ryegrass

CHARACTERISTICS: Fast germination and growth, excellent seeding vigor, provides stabilization coverage, Medium fine leaved, dark green color

New Seedling Rate: 8-10 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 320-420 lbs. per acre Over Seedling Rate: 3-4 lb. per 1000 sq. ft. 135-180 lbs. per acre

Establish Rate Days: 7-10 days Mowing Frequency: 2 x week

Traffic Tolerance: good

Thatch Production: low-med Nitrogen Required: low-med

Shade Tolerance: good Cold Tolerance: good Drought Tolerance: good



STARTING A

Site and Soil Preparation:

Many lawns are poor because the site was not prepared properly. Grade the lawn so that good surface drainage is provided. Avoid steep slopes when possible. Prepare a firm seed bed without depressions or rough areas. Rough areas are extremely difficult to correct after the lawn is established.

Fertilizer and Lime:

Soil tests are the best way to determine fertilizer and lime needs for a new lawn. New lawns should have fertilizer and the correct amount of lime applied. Poor lawn establishment occurs because soil fertility is not corrected. Lawns are usually low in available phosphorus and must recieve corrective application of fertilizer to assure establishment of grass. Follow the soil test recommendations and apply fertilizer (and lime, if needed) to bring the soil level up to a desirable range. Fertilizer and lime should be tilled into the top 3 to 6 inches of the soil test. Too much lime is more detrimental than a lime deficiency.

If soil test information is not available:

Apply starter fertilizer to the soil surface at the time of seeding. Fertilizer speeds seedling development and lawn establishment. Do not till the starter fertilizer into the soil. Fertilizer application should consist of 1.0 to 1.5 pounds of actual nitrogen and 1.5 to 3 pounds of phosphorus per 1,000 square feet.

19-19-19 5-7 pounds per 1,000 sq ft = 225-300 pounds per acre 12-12-12 9-12 pounds per 1,000 sq ft = 375-500 pounds per acre

NEW LAWN

Seeding

The best time to seed a lawn is between August 15th and September 15th. Lawns seeded later in the fall may fail because turf has insufficient growth to survive the winter. If seeding cannot be done by October 15th, postpone job until spring. The earlier in the spring a seedling can be made the better the chances for success. Winter seeding (dormant seeding) made after November 15th will not germinate until the following spring. Unfortunately, all lawns cannot be seeded during the recommended late summer/early fall period. Besides the summer survival risks associated with spring and winter seeding, these seedlings also will susceptible to heavy infestations of summer annual weeds and crabgrass.

The higher rate will provide a more dense turf during the establishment period. Spread seed evenly, go over this area to seeded twice, preferably in a different direction each time. Apply straw in a thin layer as a mulch to ensure optimum moisture conditions and reduce erosion. Straw spread uniformly at 50 to 80 pounds (1-2 bales) over 1,000 square feet (40-70 bales per acre) of seeded area is about the proper rate.

When the job is finished there should be half soil and half straw when looking directly down on it. A light lawn roller should be used to roll the straw after it is applied. The lawn should be watered and the surface kept moist. This usually means sprinkling the new seeding lightly at least twice a day. After the seedlings emerge and begin to establish, make sure adequate moisture is available for seedling growth. The new lawn shoulf not be allowed to grow beyond 3 inches before it is mowed back to 2 inches.



FERTILIZING

Types of Fertilizer:

Nitrogen Fertilizer: (1st number) Nutrients to grow quickly, produce more plant leaves, and create a darker color of green, essential for plant growth above ground, produces lush, tender green leaves.

Phosphorus Fertilizer: (2nd number) Provides plant nutrients that establishes growth below the ground forming stronger roots and mature plants.

Potassium Fertilizer: (3rd number) Provides nutrients for overall plant health and strengthens tissue, giving vigor to tolerate changing weather conditions, increasing its resistance to disease and helps with winter survival.

For an actively growing lawn, the most important fertilizing nutrient is slow release nitrogen. Nitrogen will be released over a period of weeks to continually feed your lawn with less chance of burning and damaging your lawn.

How to Fertilize

Apply fertilizer on freshly mowed grass when there is still dew on the ground. This will help by leaving visible tracks of where the fertilizer has been applied. Most fertilizer rotary spreaders cover a swatch of grass 6-8 feet wide. To apply fertilizer, cut the amount used in the rotary spreader in half. Then apply in opposite walking directions to avoid streaks caused by too much fertilzer. Always try to apply fertilizer just before it rains.

YOUR LAWN

How Much Fertilizer to Apply to Your Lawn

The best way to determine fertilizer and lime needs for a particular lawn is to have samples of the soil tested. Different types of grasses need different amounts of nitrogen to keep them vigorous and healthy.

The yearly nitrogen requirements for most common lawn grass mixes are 2-3 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet or 90-130 pounds per acre. These numbers are based on a lawn's requirement for an entire year. You need to break the total amount into several applications, applying about 1/4 to 1/3 of actual nitrogen each time.

The Dangers of Over-Fertilization

There are negative consequences to over-fertilization. After fertilizing and the lawn is growing rapidly you should not cut more than a third of the leaf blade off during any single mowing. If short mowing or scalping occurs, your lawn will be very susceptible to weeds. Turfgrass diseases, such as brown patch and Pythium, both of these diseases are fungi born and occur in warm, moist and over-fertilized conditions.

When To Fertilize

Your lawn should be fertilized at least three times a year. It is important to only feed your lawn when it's actively growing, never during a drought.

Memorial Day July4th Labor Day



MAINTAINING A

Set the Correct Mowing Height

For the correct mowing height, cut off no more than onethird of the grass's height at a time. The upper leafy grass clippings easily decompose, adding nitrogen to your soil.

Don't cut off more than one-third of the overall height of the grass or you'll not only shock the plant but also leave thick, stemmy clippings that are slow to decompose, and therefore contribute to thatch.

Blade Height

When adjusting your blade height, measure from a hard surface to the bottom of the mower deck, then add 1/4 in. (most blades sit 1/4 in. above the bottom of the deck).

Cut your grass using a sharp blade. A dull one tears grass rather than cutting it cleanly. Damaged grass turns yellow, requires more water and nutrients to recover, and is more susceptible to disease. Sharpening and balancing a blade three times a year is usually enough to maintain a good cutting edge.

Aerate your lawn to let it breathe

Grass roots need oxygen as well as water and nutrients. Aerating, the process of removing small plugs of soil, produces multiple benefits. It improves air-to-soil interaction. It allows water and fertilizer to penetrate the soil deeper and easier. It reduces soil compaction and opens space for roots to grow. It removes some thatch and stimulates the breakdown of the remaining thatch. The best tool for this task is a gas-powered aerator, available at most rental centers.

HEALTHY LAWN

Timing is everything

When applying weed killers and fertilizers, you must take into account such variables as geographic location, grass type, weed type and soil conditions. Below are a few general guidelines:

The best defense against weeds is a thick, healthy lawn that doesn't provide weed seeds adequate sunlight or open space to germinate.

Attack weeds in the early spring and summer before they have a chance to develop deep root systems, go to seed or reproduce.

Different weeds need to be dealt with using different chemicals and methods. It's best to eradicate grassy weeds like crabgrass with pre-emergent weed killers, which destroy germinating plants just as they sprout. Broadleaf weeds need to be attacked while they're young and actively growing; spraying the leaves of individual plants or patches of plants is most effective.

When to fertilize

Fertilize in early spring to jump-start root development. Fall feedings help repair summer damage and spur the root growth that goes on for several weeks even after the top growth stops; this helps grass survive the winter. Light feedings in between help maintain healthy growth. Read the package. Some chemicals work only in the presence of moisture; other chemicals are rendered useless by water.



LAWNCARE

Lawn Seed

Merit Select Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb
Pro-Turf Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb
Shady Lawn Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb
Stadium Lawn Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb
Landscapers Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb
Contractors Mix	6lb	12lb	25lb	50lb

Fertilizers:

0 - 14 - 42 50lb C 5 - 14 - 42 50lb C 5 - 20 - 20 50lb V	Weed Control & HerbicidesCrabgrass Preventer1Crabgrass Preventer4Weed & Feed1Weed & Feed5
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50lb

Liquid Fertilizers:

Gro Mor 3 - 18 - 18	2.5 gal
Gro Mor 5 - 15 - 15	2.5 gal





17lb 45lb 18lb 54lb

Pellet Lime

46 - 0 - 0

Hi Cal	50lb
Hi Mag	50lb

Products may vary depending on availability

PRODUCTS

Sprayers and Spreaders:

Earthway 2750 Nylon Bag Seeder Earthway 3100 EV-N-SPRED Earthway C24HD 100lb Spreader Earthway 1500 FERT-A-PLY Fertilizer Applicator Solo 406 general use sprayer Chapin 2 gallon general use sprayer



Herbicides:

Q4 Plus 1qt 1gal 2.5gal

Glyphosate 1gal 2.5gal

Grub Control

Grub Free Zone III 30lbs







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