

## Why grass plants need fertilization

The plant nutrients found in the Dallas area soils are many times not sufficient for the optimum growth for the turf. When this happens, a turf grass fertilizer should be applied on a consistent basis. Turf grass fertilizers include materials which contain one or more essential plant elements. A complete fertilizer contains nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, (N-P-K). The three numbers relate to the % of active ingredient in the bag. Usually these are the only three elements which must be applied on a regular basis in order to produce a quality lawn. *Nitrogen for top growth and good green color, Phosphorus for good deep root growth, and Potassium for summer and winter heartiness.*

## Annual Lawn Care Guide for Texas Lawns

Depending on your individual lawn, the following DIY regular treatments contain fertilizer, pre-emergent weed control, & broad leaf weed control. Some special lawn problems or certain lawn grasses may not be part of these recommendations.

### **Early Spring Application - February 1 through March 15**

*Pre-emergent weed control for late spring and summer annual weeds*

*Example - Crabgrass*

*Product to use: 0-0-7 with pre-emergent*

### **Late Spring/Early Summer Application - April 1 through May 30**

*Heavy rate of nitrogen/phosphorus/potassium/iron*

*Spot spray broad leaf weeds*

*Example - Dandelion*

*Product to use: 28-3-10 with 30% slow release nitrogen, 4% iron*

*Weed-B-Gone*

### **Mid Summer Application - June 1 through July 30**

*Heavy rate of nitrogen/phosphorus/potassium/iron*

*Spot spray broad leaf weeds*

*Product to use: 28-3-10 with 30% slow release nitrogen, 4% iron*

*Weed-B-Gone*

### **Late Summer Application - August 1 through September 15 OPTIONAL**

*Light rate of nitrogen/phosphorus/potassium/iron*

*Spot spray broad leaf weeds*

*Product to use: 28-3-10 with 30% slow release nitrogen, 4% iron*

**Fall Application - September 15 through October 30**

*Fall Winterize fertilizer with pre-emergent to control winter annual weeds*

*Example - Poa Annuua (annual bluegrass) & Henbit*

*Product to use: 5-10-20 or 19-19-19 fertilizer with pre-emergent*

*Addition products for specific lawn issues may be recommended for control:*

*Examples: Dallis grass, Insects, Diseases, Nutgrass, Fire Ants, Flower/Shrub beds*

## **These Guidelines and Recommendations**

These "Do-It-Yourself" (DIY) guidelines and recommendations are based on many years of actual experience on thousands of Texas lawns. If you are a DIYer and decide to follow these recommendations, I encourage you to remember there are three very important ingredients to a nice looking and healthy lawn!

*1) proper watering, 2) proper mowing, & 3) proper fertilizing & controls*

If you decide you need help or have questions about any of these lawn guidelines or recommendations, you are welcome to contact a long term Seis Lagos resident of 39 years, Steven Beagle at 214-676-0643. He will be happy to visit with you, as a neighbor, on your lawn at no cost to you. Steven had a career in the lawn care business.

## **Professional Help**

If you are not a DIYer, you may want to try a top notch professional service to tackle your lawn issues. There are many commercial companies available as I am sure you are familiar with several.

If you are interested in a company that takes pride in their work, has 30 plus years experience in this industry plus is a local, privately held owner/operator, you may want to give "*AS GREEN AS IT GETS*" a call. The owner's name is Gary Johnson and his phone number is: 214-918-5921.

Other companies with this expertise in the Seis Lagos area are Trugreen, Cititurf, Four Seasons, and others.