

Lawn Care

When You Choose the Seed You Choose Your Lawn



How To Know Good Seed

IF YOU ARE building a new lawn this spring, or renovating an old one, there are a few facts about grass seed you should know. "When you choose the seed, you choose your lawn" is a maxim that lends importance to your selection.

The right choice now can save on upkeep costs later, as well as provide the enjoyment and pride of ownership a good lawn affords. LAWN CARE tries to guide its readers around the pitfalls that have cost some homeowners unhappy experiences.

Avoid experimenting. It's costly when done on your own lawn. Many folks have found this out the hard way, especially in the last two years when there was much appealing but premature publicity on untried grasses. The good grasses for lawns, proven by years of experience under a wide range of conditions are these:

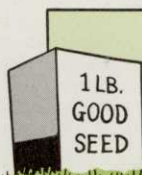
1. Kentucky Bluegrass. 2. *Poa Trivialis* (Rough Bluegrass). 3. Chewings Fescue. 4. Creeping Red Fescue. 5. Colonial Bentgrass. 6. Highland Bentgrass.

Some of the cheaper, less desirable grasses with tendencies toward coarseness or bunching after maturing are:

1. Ryegrasses. 2. Meadow Fescue. 3. Redtop. 4. Timothy. 5. Orchard Grass.

It takes a scientific blend of three to five compatible grasses to grow one of those smooth, uniform, picture lawns. "Token" amounts of the basic turf building grasses are not enough to make the high standard of lawns westerners are demanding. So be careful what you sow into your soil. The labor of preparation is the same whether you plant good seed or bad. You can afford to be particular because it costs less in the end.

The more seeds in a pound, the less pounds are needed for a good lawn. Generally speaking, the cheaper seeds are larger and so have to be sown at a heavier rate to obtain the same number of plants. For that reason the cost of a new lawn can not be reduced by planting inferior seed. On the contrary, it may even be increased because of the difficulties and dissatisfaction that are sure to develop later.



COVERS 250 SQ FT OR MORE
AND GIVES SMOOTH, UNIFORM TURF

Amounts needed to plant
1,000 sq. ft.

4 LBS.
GOOD
SEED

10 LBS.
CHEAP
CHAFFY
SEED

COST
\$9.80

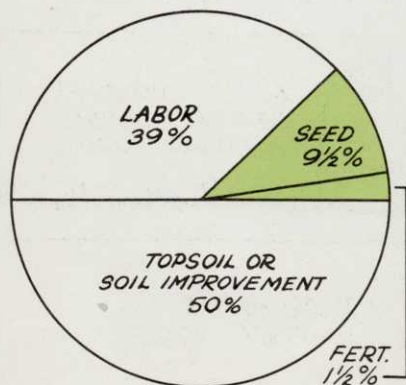
COST \$9.00

Total cost of seed to plant a given area is about the same whether good seed or inferior seed is used, because of difference in coverage.

If one keeps in mind that soil and labor are the biggest items of a new lawn and that seed and fertilizer are the smallest, then it is easy to see that seed is a poor place to pinch pennies. You simply can not save enough to justify the disappointment.

Suppose you were planning to build a new lawn on 5,000 square feet. The very top grade ingredients would cost you as follows:

55 lb bag Scotts Turf Builder	
@ \$7.50 bag	\$7.50
20 lbs Scotts Lawn Seed	
@ \$2.35 lb	47.00
<hr/>	
(or 1-1/10c sq ft)	\$54.50



Now look what happens when cheaper ingredients are used at their recommended rates:

200 lbs Ordinary Fertilizer	
@ \$5.00 bag	\$10.00
50 lbs Cheap Seed	
@ .90 lb	45.00
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(or 1-1/10c sq ft)	\$55.00

As you develop your new lawn, benefit from the experiences of others who have done it before you — follow the suggestions in LAWN CARE.

They represent the pooled judgment of thousands of western lawn owners as well as Scotts world famous Lawn Research. Send a postcard to Scotts at Palo Alto, California or Salem, Oregon and ask for bulletins about building new lawns or maintaining established lawns. No charge.

April — May Lawn Tips

FEEDING. If an early spring bolstering with TURF BUILDER was missed, by all means get it on as soon as possible. Consider double-acting WEED & FEED as an alternate if broad-leaved weeds are present.

MOWING. Height of cut should rise with temperature. Best cool season heights are: Deluxe Lawns—1 inch; Good Lawns—1 to 2 inches; Utility Lawns—1 1/2 to 2 inches. Raise these mowing heights 1/4 to 1/2 when heat sets in. Meanwhile frequent mowing is best because on both old and new lawns not too much of the plant should be removed in any single clipping.

WATERING. May need to be started earlier than people realize. A few days of warm sun and wind is apt to dry the upper layer of soil quite severely. Restoration of surface moisture by sprinkling may conserve the moisture deeper in the root zone. It is better to replace moisture before the grass shows signs of wilting.

WEEDING. If Dandelions, Plantain, Thistle, Japanese Clover, Bur Clover or other broad-leaved weeds are a problem, eliminate them the easy way. Apply 4-XD or double acting WEED & FEED. If there is much new seedling grass in the lawn, the weed control program should be delayed until after two or more mowings.



All in a DAY'S MAIL

If I fed my lawn last fall do I need to do it again this spring?

ANS—Yes, it will pay dividends. More and better roots to withstand drouth; greener, thicker, more weed resistant top-growth. All lawns should be fed each spring, summer, fall. Best ones are Turf Buildered each month.

Once a lawn is planted is it necessary to sow grass seed again?

ANS—Yes. Many new lawns, especially tract lawns, are planted with quick, low cost temporary grasses that need to be replaced. On any lawn a light overseeding each spring (1 to 2 lbs of Scotts per 1,000 sq ft) acts like a transfusion and strengthens any vulnerable, weak spots.

My lawn under a large tree is thin and scraggly. What can I do?

ANS—Tree roots are competing with grass roots for food and water. Feed the lawn oftener. Supply Turf Builder at only 5 pounds per 1,000 square feet once each month under the tree.

Why do some lawns look so smooth & uniform, almost perfect as a rug?

ANS—First requisite is a seed mixture containing only 3-5 varieties of grass, all of which have similar texture. Uniformity is seldom achieved with a wide variety of many kinds of grasses.

I feed my lawn and it looks beautiful for a little while then it's right back where it was. Why?

ANS—Perhaps you are using a quick-acting "spectacular" fertilizer that is completely water soluble and therefore quickly dissipated. Correct way to feed lawns is frequently — with a mild, long lasting food like Turf Builder. Costs less, gives better year round lawn beauty.

I used your seed back East with wonderful results. Is it also good for out West?

ANS—Scotts know-how is nationwide. Scotts grass seed sold in the West is especially formulated for the West, produces the best Western lawns.

I plan to plant a new lawn. How soon can I use fertilizer?

ANS—Use it in the very beginning. Always put fertilizer in seedbed of a new lawn before sowing seed so first roots will have a supply of food within reach. Gets new lawn off to good start. Simply spread Turf Builder using 1 pound on each 100 square feet. Rake it in.

Do I have to wait until hot weather to use 4-XD or Weed & Feed?

ANS—No. Use anytime weed growth requires them. Action may be slower in cool weather but ultimate results are just as favorable, with but few exceptions.

Be Kind To Your Trees

Young trees in new tract areas are often small, spindly things. They are additionally handicapped in having been planted on a low cost basis rather than what's best for the sapling's future. Consequently there is a high mortality among these trees. Those which don't pass out may show little or no progress so they fail miserably to offer the shade or decoration intended.



You can hasten the healthy development of your trees and enhance the value of your property with a little kindness. Just keep them nourished with Turf Builder. Do it this way:

Around the base of the trunk cultivate the soil in a circle 2 to 4 feet in diameter. This cultivated area allows water to get down to the roots.

Then scatter Turf Builder over the cultivated circle using one cupful for each 1/2 inch diameter of the trunk. Thus a young tree measuring about 2 inches in diameter would need about 4 cupfuls. Cultivate the Turf Builder into the soil and then water well for a few minutes.

Feed this way two or three times during the spring season. Your trees will respond and likely become the best on the street.

Should You Own a Spreader

Just three basic tools are required to insure efficient maintenance of most home lawns:

1. Mower. 2. Sprinkler. 3. Spreader.

A good mower, sharp and well adjusted, is needed to cut grass clean at the best height, and give a lawn that well groomed look.

A quality-built sprinkler is man's method of supplementing Nature's shortages of rainfall.

A Scotts Spreader applies the newest labor saving lawn aides that modern science now provides.

The spreader makes BETTER LAWNS. It distributes evenly which enables uniform results. As just one example — there's none of that streaking that so often shows up after hand broadcasting of fertilizers.

It enables the products you use to give their best performance for you because they can be applied at recommended rates — neither too much nor too little. Due to the ease of application, treatments are more likely to be made at the right time because there is no longer the inclination to "put it off."

The spreader makes lawn work EASY. Set for proper rate. Then pour the material into the hopper, and merrily roll the little two-wheeled cart across the lawn in slightly overlapping strips the same as with a mower. That's all there is to it.

The spreader saves TIME. A thousand square feet of turf can be "spread" in less than 10 minutes. The versatility of a Scotts Spreader makes it adaptable for all lawn treatments — Turf Builder lawn food, weed controls, insect control and seed sowing. Most lawns can be treated with any of these in less time than it takes to brew a pot

of coffee. With a Scotts Spreader you can have a good lawn and still have time to enjoy it.

The spreader also saves MONEY by saving material. Hand broadcasting always takes more fertilizer, more seed, or more weed control and the excess represents waste. Add to this saving in materials the tremendous savings in time. If you are hiring the work done by the hour, time is a major factor these days and it exceeds the cost of the materials. If you are Scotting it yourself, your own time is priceless.

Spreaders nowadays are loaned or rented by most leading garden supply stores. However, it takes time and gasoline to go get one and then return it so others can use it. One of your very own, hanging on the wall of your garage is always ready and in good working order whenever you want it. Scotts precision Spreader will truly earn its own way in only a brief span of its many years of usefulness.

Clover Without These Ugly Patches



Ever since the announcement of CLOVEX in the last Lawn Care bulletin, folks are writing in about this new product.

CLOVEX is a mixture of lawn quality clover seed combined with an organic carrier to give adequate bulk for broadcasting by hand. Or it can even be sown with a Scotts Spreader set at Mark No 4.

It's the easy way to blend Clover into a lawn evenly so you don't get the patches so common heretofore.

O M SCOTT & SONS CO.

Scotts®

MARYSVILLE - - OHIO

PS-125-41554



EVERY PACKAGE OF SCOTTS LAWN CARE PRODUCTS BEARS THIS TRADE-MARK AND IS SEALED FOR YOUR PROTECTION