

NEED HELP WITH YOUR LAWN?

It's time for the

**Turf
Experts**

at **Gertens.**



TURF HANDBOOK

Your complete guide to an easy and beautiful lawn.

*Find out about fertilizers, organic formulas, soil conditioners,
weed & insect control, rodent solutions, grass seed, seeding
instructions and yard waste recycling locations
all inside this turf care booklet.*

 **Gertens[®]**



4-STEP FERTILIZING PROGRAM



Step 1



Crabgrass Preventer

Apply:

Late April - May



CONTAINS EXCLUSIVE



JRKO BRAND Crabgrass Preventer contains dithiopyr herbicide which is highly effective for crabgrass control. This product is excellent for established lawns.

Ingredients include:

- 22% Nitrogen for a lush green lawn
- 6% Potash or potassium for growth and drought resistance
- 2% Iron for a fresh green look
- 2.6% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic™ to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Can be applied up to 4 weeks later than other pre-emergence crabgrass preventers. A selective herbicide plus fertilizer combination product that provides control of crabgrass and many other weeds in established lawns and ornamental turfgrasses.

Apply in spring before weeds germinate or in the fall for a pre-emergent the following spring. Water in to activate.

Do not reseed grass or over-seed your lawn until 3 months after application.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.



Step 2



Weed & Feed

Apply:

Late May - early June



CONTAINS EXCLUSIVE



JRKO BRAND Weed & Feed contains natural non-burning organic slow release nitrogen and iron for deep greening.

Ingredients include:

- 22% Nitrogen for a lush lawn
- 4% Soluble Potash
- 1% Iron for a fresh green look
- 1.4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic™ to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains VIPER® which controls: dandelions, spurge, plantain, chickweed and 200 other broadleaf weeds. Best results are obtained when weeds are growing actively in spring or early fall.

Apply when lawn is moist as granules adhere to weeds. Don't cut your lawn 3 days before or after application. Avoid irrigation, rainfall, and mowing for 24 to 48 hours after application. Avoid applying during temperatures of 90° or more. Morning applications are best. Water in 48 hours after application to activate fertilizer component. Granular is safer than liquid fertilizer to avoid burning.

Maximum of 2 applications per season.

Apply throughout the season to control weeds.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.

- ★ Contains humic & fulvic acids
- ★ Improves turf & soil quality
- ★ Increases water retention



Step 3
JRKO BRAND
Turf Special

Apply:
 Mid-August

CONTAINS EXCLUSIVE



JRKO BRAND Turf Special is a slow-release fertilizer that will give prolonged feeding with less danger of burning the turf.

Ingredients include:

- 24% Nitrogen to increase vigor and create a lush green lawn
- 4% Soluble potash
- 4% Iron to help keep lawns green during summer stress
- 1.4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic™ to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Slow-release allows for a longer lasting green lawn. Promotes thick, healthy lawns. Extra potash for healthier lawns. 6 to 8 weeks of fertilization.

Apply in spring, summer or fall as a straight fertilizer if your lawn does not need Crabgrass Preventer or Weed & Feed. Water in to activate.

Tip:

JRKO BRAND Turf Food can be used in place of Weed & Feed if broadleaf weeds are not a problem in your lawn.

Apply throughout the season when a balanced feeding is needed.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.



Step 4
JRKO BRAND
Winterizer

Apply:
 Late September - October

CONTAINS EXCLUSIVE



JRKO BRAND Winterizer is the best fertilizer to get your lawn ready for the next spring.

Ingredients include:

- 20% Nitrogen
- 12% Soluble potash
- 2% Iron to help keep lawns green during stress
- 4% Sulfur
- Contains 25% Nutromatic™ to improve soil quality and increase water retention

Contains natural, non-burning, organic, slow-release nitrogen and iron for deep greening. Prepares your lawn for winter dormancy. Extra potash for healthier turf and quicker green-up in spring. Specially formulated to maximize root building and winter hardiness, or dormant.

Apply just before fall seeding. Water in to activate.

Tip:

By applying **JRKO BRAND** Winterizer in the fall, you are actually fertilizing for the next spring, making this step the most important of all four steps.

Available in 18 lb. and 50 lb.



A **Gertens** family of products.



Step 1

Crabgrass Preventer plus Lawn Food

Apply:

Late April - early May

A unique combination of slow release lawn food with trace elements. **ferti·lome** Crabgrass Preventer Plus Lawn Food contains Dimension[®], a pre-emergent crabgrass preventer. Provides 8 weeks of control. Do not reseed for 8 weeks

Ingredients include:

20% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 3% Soluble Potash

Apply as a pre-emergent between mid-April and mid-May. Water in to activate product.



Step 2

Weed-Out Weed Killer & Lawn Fertilizer

Apply:

Late May - early June

ferti·lome Weed-out plus lawn fertilizer contains Trimec[®], a combination of three powerful weed killers.

Ingredients include:

25% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 4% Soluble Potash

Apply to a wet lawn and avoid cutting 3 days before and after application. Avoid irrigation, rainfall, and mowing for 24 - 48 hours after application. Allow 4 to 6 weeks before your next application of fertilizer.

Note: Apply throughout the season to control weeds.



Step 3

Classic Lawn Food Plus Iron

Apply:

Late summer

ferti·lome Lawn Food contains a source of nitrogen which feeds your lawn for 6 - 8 weeks. Also contains a natural source of potash, one of the three primary plant nutrients.

Ingredients include:

24% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 4% Soluble Potash

Water in to activate product. Allow 4 - 6 weeks before your next fertilizer application.

Note: Apply throughout the season when a balanced feeding is needed.



Step 4

Winterizer

Apply:

September - October

Great for fall feeding, which is the most important feeding. **ferti·lome** Winterizer helps your lawn come out quicker, thicker and greener in the spring.

Ingredients include:

25% Nitrogen, 0% Phosphates, 6% Soluble Potash

Apply in the fall when leaves change color. Water in to activate product.



ORGANIC OPTION 4-STEP PROGRAM

Safe for kids, pets and the environment.



Step 1

Spring Weed & Feed

Apply:

Early Spring



Spring Weed & Feed (Granular Corn Gluten Meal) is a natural broad-leaf pre-emergent that helps prevent weeds from establishing in the spring.

Contains slow release nitrogen which helps promote thicker lawns and lasting turf color. Apply before germination of weed seeds. A short drying period following germination helps kill the weeds before they form roots. If it does not rain for 5 days after application, water with approximately 0.25" of water and then allow the soil to dry for a period following germination.



Step 2

Summer Maintenance

Apply:

Early Summer



Early Summer Turf Maintenance natural fertilizer encourages new growth.

Combines slow release nitrogen which helps promote thick lawns and lasting turf color with quickly available natural Chilean nitrate for a fast turf response. Sustane 9-0-2 is made from a combination of aerobically composted turkey litter, green waste compost, feather meal, Chilean nitrate and sulfate of potash.

Apply in May or June.



Step 3

Late Summer Starter & Overseeder

Apply:

Summer



Turf Starter and Overseeder 4-6-4 is made from aerobically composted turkey litter, feather meal and sulfate of potash. The composting process makes the fertilizer safe so it will not burn the grass seed.

Applying new grass seed mixed with Sustane to an existing lawn is a great way to promote dense grass coverage and help crowd out weeds.

Apply in August or September.



Step 4

Fall Winterizer

Apply:

Fall



Fall Winterizer 8-0-4 provides the lawn nutrients that grass needs to prepare for winter resulting in a quick spring green up.

Sustane Fall Winterizer promotes thicker lawns and early spring color. Sustane 8-0-4 is made from a combination of aerobically composted turkey litter, green waste compost, feather meal and sulfate of potash.

Apply in September or October

PREMIUM NATURAL GARDEN PRODUCTS

Lawn Fertilizing & Repairing

Organic Lawn Fertilizers & Chemicals

Sustane 8-2-4 All Natural Lawn & Landscape Plant Food



Sustane 8-2-4 All Natural Lawn & Landscape Plant Food is a slow release nitrogen fertilizer that provides lasting plant nutrition from biologically stable compost, natural potash and feather meal. Recommended for use on lawns, landscape, trees, shrubs, flowers, fruits, vegetables and all plant varieties.

Coverage: 20 lbs. covers 2,000 sq. ft.

Provides
Lasting Plant
Nutrition

Sustane 9-0-0 Spring Weed and Feed (Granular Corn Gluten Meal)



Corn Gluten Meal (CGM) is a natural broad-leaf pre-emergent that helps prevent weeds from establishing in the spring. CGM is rich in slow release nitrogen which helps promote thicker lawns and lasting turf color. CGM from Sustane is granulated and screened, allowing for easy and consistent application. Apply before germination of weed seeds. A short drying period following germination helps kill the weeds before they form roots.

Coverage: 30 lb. covers 1,500 to 5,000 sq. ft. Rate: Apply between 6 and 20 lb. per 1,000 sq. ft.

All Natural
Crabgrass
Preventer

Milorganite



Organic nitrogen fertilizer composed primarily of heat dried microbes. It's an all-purpose fertilizer used on lawns, shrubs, trees, flowers, vegetables, golf courses and as a seed carrier. Because of absorption, it shows almost immediate results. It contains 4 percent non-staining iron for deep greening and can be applied any time during the growing season and is suitable for any climate. Children and pets can safely go onto areas that have been fertilized with Milorganite.

Available in 36 lb. and 32 lb. bags. Covers 2,500 sq. ft.

Organic, all-
purpose fertilizer.
Safe for kids
and pets.

New Lawn Starter Fertilizer

JRKO BRAND New Lawn Starter

Starter Lawn Fertilizer promotes a rapid, vigorous start to early root development and growth. Formulated to stimulate early growth and thickening of newly seeded and sodded lawns. Can be used on all grass types.

Coverage: 18 lbs. covers 5,000 sq. ft.



Premium
blend of primary
nutrients for your
lawn.

SOIL CONDITIONERS

Soil Activator | Gypsum | Lime

Soil Amendment



Affects Soils at a
Molecular Level

HuMic Granular Humic Acid soil amendment is for lawns, vegetable gardens, flower beds, indoor plants and compost bins. A highly concentrated soil conditioner. Derived from remains of decomposed organic plant materials, humic acids enhance nutrient uptake and stimulate soil microbial life. It is also helpful in breaking down compact and clay soils.

Available in 20 lb. and 40 lb. bags.

Rapid Gypsum



Neutralize
Soil pH Levels
in Lawns

Rapid Gypsum, fortified with pHCa technology, is ideal for leaching out excessive salt in the soil, as well as aerating tightly compacted soil. It will provide instant calcium without affecting pH levels. This patented pHCa technology enhances the plant's ability to convert nutrients into an immediately available form for nourishment and soil pH maintenance. Rapid Gypsum provides superior results in a reduced dust formula for easy application.

Rapid Lime



Starter
Fertilizer for
Your Lawn

Rapid-Lime is a fast-acting treatment that will save you time and money on lawn care. Fortified with pHCa technology, it quickly increases soil pH and calcium levels. This patented pHCa technology enhances the plant's ability to convert nutrients into an immediately available form for absorption and soil pH adjustment. Use to ensure a good fertilizer response, promote a healthy lawn, soil structure and cut down on moss and excess weed pressure.

Green Loon® Soil Conditioner



Improves the
Quality of Soil for
Healthy Plant
Growth

Green Loon® Soil Conditioner improves the quality of soils. It loosens clay soil to help improve drainage, aeration and nutrient release for plants to use. Green Loon® Soil Conditioner helps plants & roots hold moisture, nutrients and oxygen in sandy soils. It also increases microbial activity in the soil. This helps release nutrients in the soil for the plants to use. We recommend that you add a balanced fertilizer program.

Sustane Bolster



Stimulates
Root Growth in
Poor Soil

Sulfur Maxx™ contains finely grounded sulfur plus soluble Ca and formulated with polyhydroxycarboxylic acids (pHCa technology), which is derived from plant extracts. This enhances the plant's ability to convert nutrients into an available form for plant uptake and soil pH adjustment. It helps plants solubilize and extract nutrients from the soil while increasing translocation of nutrients in the plant.

TURF INSECT PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

Hi-Yield

Control Insects In Your Lawn



Turf Ranger is a broad spectrum residual insecticide for control of certain insects in your lawn. Useful in lawn, around shrubbery and other ornamentals, also effective against common lawn and garden foes such as ants, cockroaches, boxelder bugs, digger wasps and more.

TRUSTED SINCE 1928
BONIDE

Ant, Flea & Tick Killer Granules



Bonide Ant, Flea & Tick Killer Granules contain 0.25% Permethrin fast acting, long lasting (4 weeks) insect control for lawns and home foundations. Great for ants, fire ants, fleas, ticks, crickets, earwigs, spiders, sow bugs, silverfish, clover mites, chinch bugs, armyworms, sod webworm, leaf hoppers, millipedes and certain grubs.

10 lbs treats 5,000 sq. ft.

Hi-Yield

Control Insects In Your Lawn, Including Ticks



Bug Blaster II provides broad spectrum control of insect pests in lawns, landscapes, perimeter around buildings. Controls fire ants, fleas, ticks, mole crickets, chinch bugs, european crane flies, scorpions and other listed insect pests.

BAYER
ADVANCED

Excellent Turf Rescue Formula



Bayer Advanced Grub Killer Plus high-efficiency granules provide 50% higher concentration, 33% less weight and same great coverage. Contains DYLOX® – kills grubs in 24 hours. Also kills ants, billbugs, chinch bugs, crickets, cutworms, earwigs, grasshoppers, leafhoppers, millipedes, mole crickets, pillbugs, scorpions, sod webworms, sowbugs and ticks.

TRUSTED SINCE 1928
BONIDE

Liquid Contact Insect Control



Eight Yard RTS contains Permethrin 2.5% which provides economical, contact and residual insect control for up to 4 weeks. Kills over 100 insects which destroy lawns, roses, flowers, trees, shrubs, vegetables, fruit, nuts and may be applied to homes and other areas to stop infestations of all flying, crawling and hopping insects.

TRUSTED SINCE 1928
BONIDE

Annual Grub Beater Season Long Grub Control.



One annual application is all it takes to control grubs all season long. Also kills European Crane Fly larvae, mole crickets and other turf destroying insects. Apply any time, spring to summer.

*5 lb. bag covers 5,000 sq. ft.
15 lb. bag covers 15,000 sq. ft.*

HOW TO CONTROL JAPANESE BEETLES & GRUBS

Japanese Beetles are a constant threat to both Lawns & Gardens that are not going away. We may have a lapse in populations due to a frigid winter, but chances are the numbers will return again a year later. They are an insect with an annual life cycle that decimate lawns by feeding off the root systems and also foliage of trees, ornamentals and edibles. You need to plan preventative treatment on both fronts.



Beetles modulate through 3 life forms during the course of the year. Eggs are laid in healthy turf areas as mating is finished in mid – late summer. They feed off of healthy grass roots as the larvae grow. When weather chills, they burrow deep into the soil for winter hibernation. As Spring temps warm, they rise to the top 6 inches of the dirt where they mature and morph into the pupae stage early June. The Beetles that are so harmful to our plants invade like clockwork in MN right at the onset of July where they eat voraciously and mate. The cycle then repeats.



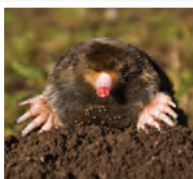
As a homeowner, it is important to understand both these phases and how to be proactive. Just because you have no Beetle damage does not mean your lawn is not at risk. They may enter your yard from infestations of your neighbors. You will notice patches of dead/ dry grass which pull back easily as the blades have lost any roots.

There are season-long granules in Bonide Grub Beater which rid them as new larvae eggs hatch, and they are feeding throughout the mid-summer. We also have the Bayer Advanced Grub Killer which is a quick kill that burns out all insects in the top layer of the soil without harming vegetation. This works best in late Spring as they are large, not eating and readying for the pupae stage. There is also an Organic option in Milky Spore. It is a long-term method that affects their reproduction cycle and thus takes an extra season to make noticeable impacts, but is truly organic.

The mature adults inflict the most damage in their short 6 weeks of summer heat. They mainly feed off green foliage where they will work quickly and remaining leaves will appear skeletonized. Some actual flowers are also subject, roses in particular. For trees, a systemic treatment planned early in the season protects the leaves from roots into the branches. For ornamentals, there are several varieties of insecticides that work by paralyzing the Beetles where they starve and fall off the plant. There is also an Organic line in Bonide Captain Jack's which can save your edibles like berries and fruit trees. And of course, the notorious Beetle Traps which are met with either praise or panic. The winning factor in these is that the traps are specific only to Japanese Beetles and do not affect pollinators as all other chemicals do. Even though they certainly attract a large number into your yard. Just remember to hang them away from your crops and not in the middle of the garden.



RODENT PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS



Moles

There are two kinds of moles in Minnesota: the eastern and star-nose mole. Moles are characterized as small rodents with pointed noses, large clawed, paddle-shaped front feet and bulky hairless tails. Moles feed primarily on beetles, grubs, and other insect larvae. Damage caused by moles is noticeable by the elevated tunnels they create.



Shrews (*Shrewmouse*)

Shrews are rodents that range in size from 1-5 inches. Six species of shrews exist in Minnesota and are identified as a drab gray or brown colored animal, with longer pointy noses. Shrews don't cause a lot of damage to lawns or interiors.



Voles

Similar to the mice found in your home. They are known as a field mouse with fur in brown/ grey tones, small round bodies and beady eyes with a long tail. The damage they inflict is generally above ground by gnawing at edibles and ornamentals. Trail marks as the snow melts are sure signs of them.



Gophers

Their damage to turf can be severe with large mounds and tunnels through large acreage. They can grow to 8 inches, can stand upright and are obvious for their plump cheeks which can carry both food and nesting materials. Because most of their network is underground, they can disrupt irrigation systems and cause soil erosion.



Squirrels

We all know that they can easily wreak havoc on planters as well as any garden crop or bulbs under the surface. But because of their burrowing tendencies, they can play a role in lawn destruction as well.

Rodent Solutions

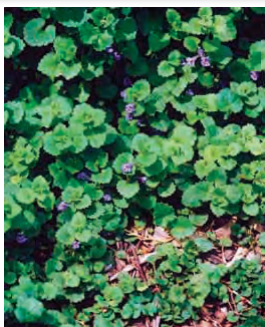
The most important thing to remember when controlling them, is to catch the infestation as soon as possible. Like rabbits, all rodents can populate quickly and once established, they are difficult to exterminate.

A first step is to apply a Grub Control product to eliminate their food source. Secondly, we have repellent products **Ferti-Lome** MoleGo, or **GRUBS** MoleMax that can deter them in a non-poisonous way. They use castor-oil based formulas that coat the insects which are their food source and steers them away. We also stock other repellents that are scent based such as Repellex which are seasonal and is absorbed into plants themselves to discourage gnawing that can occur.

Other alternatives are garlic-based scent spikes or electronic spikes which emit pitch that forces them elsewhere.

If none of this works, you will need to implement poison methods or below ground trapping. Poison control is generally in pellet form and goes right into tunnels for moles and gophers. There are also edible poison worms which are poked into the turf and then eaten as a baited food source. Smoke bombs can be utilized in tunnels which asphyxiates them. A last alternative are harpoon traps with spikes that impale them in tunnels and are usually motion sensitive to pathways underground. These are certainly safer for household pets that might stumble onto the poisons.

GOT WEEDS? NO PROBLEM.



Problem: Creeping Charlie

Creeping Charlie is a low growing, perennial weed that thrives in moist, shady areas of the lawn. It will take over sunny areas of the lawn if the turf is thin. In the early spring flowers will appear that can range from dark blue to purple. It can propagate from cuttings, so bag lawn mowings.

Solution:

Control Creeping Charlie by using **JRKE** Weed & Feed, **ferti-lome** Weed Free Zone.



Problem: Crabgrass

Crabgrass is an annual grass that grows best in the heat of the summer. Since it is an annual, crabgrass will be killed by a fall frost. It is crucial to rid of it before it goes to seed. Typically crabgrass is more prevalent around curbs, driveways, sidewalks and thin areas of the turf.

Solution:

Crabgrass can be controlled by applying a pre-emergent herbicide in the spring (April 15 - May 30). Crabgrass germinates from mid-April until the end of July. Use pre-emergent which has a longer lasting 12 week germination inhibitor. **JRKE** Crabgrass Preventer, will allow you to effectively prevent crabgrass from ever becoming a problem. A second application can be made in mid-June for even more control. Once crabgrass is established, little can be done to effectively eliminate it; however, knockdown applications of selective herbicide like **ferti-lome** Weed Out with Q Crabgrass, or Monterey Quincept and Crab-E-Rad can help control the problem as well.



Problem: Quackgrass

Quackgrass is a perennial weed grass in Minnesota that is bothersome to both the gardener and the homeowner. It's very difficult to eliminate quackgrass in the home lawn, because it is of the same family as lawn grasses.

Solution:

Control quackgrass by using nonselective herbicides containing Glyphosate®, like **hi-Yield** Killzall Weed & Grass Killer, or Monterey Remuda. Since nonselective herbicides can be destructive to desirable plants, the use of a tube-sponge style applicator is recommended.

SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE MOST COMMON WEED PROBLEMS



Problem: Yellow Nutsedge

Yellow nutsedge is a perennial grass-like weed. It has a distinguishable triangular stem and is brighter green in color. Yellow nutsedge typically grows better in July and August and is capable of outgrowing fescues and bluegrass. Its roots carry small nut seedlings, which perpetuate its overtaking of natural grasses.

Solution:

Yellow nutsedge and other sedges can be controlled, with **Ferti-lome** Nutsedge Control, and **Hi-Yield** Spreader Sticker.



Problems: Thistle, Purslane, & Dandelions

Thistle can be a problematic perennial or biennial weed in Minnesota. Depending on the variety of thistle, it can produce seed once a year or once every two years. Purslane is an annual weed that reproduces prolifically by seed. Purslane is found more in areas where the ground has been disturbed, such as flower and vegetable gardens. The leaves and stems are fleshy and succulent and are often tinged slightly red. Dandelions are perennial weeds that have unmistakable yellow aster-like flowers. Dandelions will flower in the spring and fall and should be controlled during these time frames.

Solution:

Thistle, purslane, and dandelions can be quickly controlled with selective broadleaf herbicides, like **JKK** Weed & Feed, **Ferti-lome** Weed Free Zone, **Ferti-lome** Weed-Out, Monterey Thistle Down, or **Scythe** Weed Beater Ultra.



Problem: Buckthorn

Buckthorn is considered a noxious weed because of its invasive capability. Buckthorn twigs are tipped with a short sharp thorn and are easy to identify in the landscape. The leaves are dark green with curved main veins. The berries are black, usually persist into winter and contain several seeds.

Solution:

Because its root systems are so quickly invasive, Buckthorn should be dealt with sooner rather than later. Gertens is a preferred vendor for the Extractigator™ which is a manual lever tool designed specifically for Buckthorn. It has a wide clamp at ground level that uses torque to pull up the complete plant and works best in Spring or Fall when ground is wet. Otherwise, because it is a woody stem, it has to be destroyed with a root killer such as **Ferti-lome** Brush & Stump Killer. To work effectively it needs to be brushed onto an open fresh cut and absorbed down into the stem. This works well in Fall while the roots are actively growing prior to winter hibernating. It can then be easily yanked out come Spring.

THERE'S A FUNGUS AMONG US



Problem: Snow Molds in Lawns

After the snow melts, if you see matted grass with cobweb-like fungus, this is snow mold. There are two types of snow mold. Gray snow mold (white to gray) stops growing when the lawn dries out and temperatures exceed 45°. Pink snow mold (white to pink) will continue to grow with temperatures up to 60°.

Solution:

- In the fall, continue to mow your grass until it stops growing.
- Rake all leaves in the fall.
- Apply **BONIDE** Infuse Systemic Fungicide, **ferti-lome** F-Stop, or Scott's® DiseaseEX in the fall and spring as a preventative.



Problem: Powdery Mildew

Powdery mildew is a common disease which creates a dusty white coating on grass blades. This disease generally occurs in the spring and fall and frequently develops in shaded areas with poor air circulation.

Solution:

- Selective pruning of trees to improve light and air circulation.
- Apply a fungicide such as **BONIDE** Infuse Systemic Fungicide, **ferti-lome** F-Stop or Scott's® DiseaseEX.



Problem: Turf Patch Disease

These fungi are found in the soil of your lawn. The disease develops during the rainy season in spring, summer and fall. The green grass blades will change to turn tan/brown then reddish in color. In your lawn, you will see dead grass in the shape of rings or circular patches. Temperature and moisture can increase diseases. Prevent summer patch by applying fungicide before high temperatures & humidity.

Solution:

- Proper watering.
- Maintain mowing height at 2 ½ to 3 inches.
- Apply **BONIDE** Infuse Systemic Fungicide, **ferti-lome** F-Stop, or Scott's® DiseaseEX.



Problem: Leaf Spot Diseases of Lawns

Leaf spot occurs in cool, wet weather (spring - fall) and is easy to identify by its spots. The leaf blades will develop purplish-red to purplish-brown spots with a tan center. The disease attacks the leaves and can spread to the crown of the grass plant. Wide spread damage to lawns happens during a wet spring.

Solution:

- Proper watering.
- Maintain mowing height at 2 ½ to 3 inches.
- Apply **BONIDE** Infuse Systemic Fungicide, **ferti-lome** F-Stop, or Scott's® DiseaseEX



Scott's DiseaseEX

Scott's® DiseaseEX™ Lawn Fungicide offers a formula to cover a wide range of problem lawn diseases. This new product is fast acting and continues to control lawns diseases for up to 4 weeks. Scott's® DiseaseEX™ controls common diseases like: Brown Patch, Stem & Stripe Rust, Red Thread, Powdery Mildew, Pythium, Southern & Typhula Blight, Pink Patch, Necrotic Ring Spot, Summer Patch, Yellow Patch and more.

SEED OR SOD?

The pros & cons of each.

- Seeded lawns tend to be healthier than lawns that are sodded.
- Seeded lawns will undergo competition with weeds as they germinate and establish.
- The length of time during which you can lay sod is greater than the length of time you can seed.
- Seeded lawns can be formulated with mixes that are site specific. i.e. sunny, shady, clay, etc.
- Sodded lawns are instant lawns. As soon as the sod is laid, you have green grass. Seeded lawns require time to germinate and establish.
- Sod does not perform well in shady areas. The types of seed used in sod is for sunny areas.
- Sod is more expensive and labor intensive to install than seed.

Speak with a Gertens lawn & garden expert to discuss your options and decide which is best for you, seed or sod. We have excellent products for both.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS



Spreaders

Choose from walk behind broadcast spreaders, or handheld spreaders depending on the amount of area you need to cover.



Watering Attachments

We offer multiple options in sprinklers; pulsating, oscillating or irrigation models. Along with these, all can be converted to easy snap connectors. And finally, a wide assortment of timers, manual or digital to make watering an easy task.



Maintainer Rake

Defeat any lawn and garden job in half the time with the maintainer rake. 21" or 9" wide plastic molded frame has end-to-end spring loaded galvanized wire teeth that grab everything in its path.



Truper Rakes

Truper Tru-Tough rakes provide are durable, professional grade and long-lasting. Tru-Tough has long been Truper's best selling products.

- Heavy duty
- NTS technology = no kinks or tangles



Garden Weasel

Prepare the soil. In patches you should loosen the soil. The Original Garden Weasel tool can help you do this easily. You may need to do a soil test so you know what is needed.




NeverKink

High strength, lead-free aluminum couplings. Leak-proof and crush-resistant. Ergo rigid sleeve which eliminates kinking at the faucet. MicroShield antimicrobial protection guards against mold and mildew. Available in 25' 50' 75' and 100' sizes.


NEW LAWN SEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

Custom design a lawn that fits your yard.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

-  Grass Seed
-  Lawn Seeding Soil
- Peat Moss
- Compost
- A Seed Starter + Crabgrass Preventer or  Starter Fertilizer, or Seed Aide Cover Grow
- Greenview Mulch
- Maintainer Rake
- Truper Rakes
- Sprinkler, Hose, Timer
- Seed Spreader
- Garden Weasel
- Straw Blankets or EZstraw

Step 1: Site Preparation

This is the most important step to follow in order to enjoy successful germination of your grass seed. Loosen soil and add soil amendments. Rototill soil to a minimum of 6 inches. Loosening the soil breaks up compaction, allowing the grass seedlings to root and the grass to take up nutrients and air, while giving better seed/soil contact. Sandy or heavy clay soils need to be amended. Grass needs good drainage and soil to grow and thrive.  Lawn Seeding Soil allows the plant to survive stress periods and retain moisture and nutrients longer. Level soil and rake smooth. Remove any clumps, rocks and other debris. A leaf rake will leave groove that allow for better seed/soil contact for germination.

Step 2: Use Starter Fertilizer For Grass Seed

Starter fertilizer will give emerging grass a faster, healthier start. Broadcast starter fertilizer over the soil at recommended rates and rake lightly into soil. Regular types of crabgrass preventer will prevent germination of grass seed. A roller can be used to slightly firm the soil.

Step 3: Broadcast Seed Over Soil

Follow recommended seeding rate for your grass seed mixture. See seed guide to select the right mix for your lawn. Use a hand spreader for small areas and a fertilizer spreader for large areas. For a more uniform seeding, broadcast one-half of the seed in one direction and the other half in a direction perpendicular to the first.

Step 4: Rake Seed Lightly Into Soil

Raking the seed lightly into the soil less than 1/4" deep and rolling with a roller allows better seed and soil contact, ensuring proper germination.

Step 5: Broadcasting Of Pelletized Mulch To Maintain Moisture

This step is optional, however, we recommend mulching the area so the top several inches of soil do not dry out as fast. It will also help keep weeds down, keep birds from eating the seed and help seeds germinate faster.

Step 6: Water Regularly

Water 3-5 times a day for 5-10 minutes following seed application until grass is established. It is important that the seed does not dry out.

Step 7: Stay Off The Grass!

Keep people and pets off seeded areas until your grass is established.

LAWN OVERSEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

Reclaim that thin or weak lawn.

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- JRKB^{BRAND}** Grass Seed
- Seed Spreader
- Sprinkler, Hose & Timer
- Aerator
- A Seed Starter + Crabgrass Preventer, **JRKB^{BRAND}** Starter Fertilizer, or Seed Aide Cover Grow
- Green Loon[®]** Lawn Seeding Soil
- Truper Leaf & Thatch Rake
- Maintainer Rake
- Garden Weasel

Step 1: Mow Lawn Short

Mow your grass to a height of 1½ to 2 inches.

Step 2: Rake Area Thoroughly

Use a leaf rake. Take care not to tear out too much of the existing lawn.

Step 3: Aerate Your Lawn

Aeration improves your lawns appearance, usability and ability to absorb water from irrigation. Lawn aeration increases nutrient uptake and helps to break up compaction, allowing the roots of existing grass to breathe. An aerator that pulls plugs is more effective than one that simply pokes holes. Leave soil cores on top of the lawn to help grass seed germination.

Step 4: Broadcast Starter Lawn Fertilizer

Use one a Seed Starter + Crabgrass Preventer, or **JRKB^{BRAND}** Starter Fertilizer.

Step 5: Broadcast Seed Over Lawn

See grass seed mix list for the perfect blend for your yard. Use overseeding rates listed for grass mix per 1,000 square feet. Use a hand spreader for small areas and a fertilizer spreader for large areas. Rent your overseeder from Gertens Rental. For a more uniform seeding, broadcast one-half of the seed in one direction, and the other half in a direction perpendicular to the first.

Step 6: Rake

A light layer of **Green Loon[®]** Lawn Seeding Soil gives a safty blanket to seed, even on existing lawns. Rake lightly with a leaf rake and in bare spots, cover seed less than 1/4" with soil to ensure good seed and soil contact which will increase germination.

Step 7: Water Regularly

Water 3-5 times a day for 5-10 minutes following seed application until grass is established. It is important that the seed does not dry out.

SEEDING SOIL RECOMMENDATION

Green Loon[®] Lawn Seeding Soil



Take it from us, this product is the best lawn seeding soil you can find! It's a mix of peatmoss, compost and greens grade sand to lightly cover seed or as a soil amendment in patching large spots and establishing turf for an entire lawn. Available in bagged or bulk.

DORMANT LAWN SEEDING

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- JRKO** Grass Seed
- Seed Aide Cover Grow or Greenview Mulch
- Straw Blankets or EZStraw
- Green Loon** Lawn Seeding Soil
- Seed Spreader
- JRKO** Winterizer
- Maintainer Rake
- Truper Rake

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WINTER HIBERNATION TO GET AN EARLY START ON SPRING.

Dormant seeding is not a variety of grass seed, but simply a method of setting seed in late Fall to germinate with the thaw in the coming Spring. It is a useful way of thickening your lawn before weeds can infiltrate. The trick is in the timing and changes from year to year. You want to wait until late Fall when ground is nearing a freeze and temps are cold enough that your seed will not germinate in the final weeks of the year. The closer to snowfall the better. As spring thaws, the natural moisture and easing soil allows for early grass sprouting.

Step 1: Rake all leaves and debris

Grass seed always needs to come in contact with the ground itself to germinate. If tossed on over leaves it will only rot in the winter composting.

Step 2: Broadcast JRK Winterizer

This step is a great guarantee that your current lawn will feed existing roots going into winter hibernation. But it also neutralizes your soil so that new planting emerges out of a strong yard with a balanced formula.

Step 3: Broadcast Seed Over Lawn

Dormant seeding works with any variety of our grasses and is not dependent on Sun/ Shade or other growing factors.

Step 4: Rake Gently

Using on of our maintainer rakes with a spring tine, gently work the seed into the top ¼" of the surface along with the Fertilizer so it is protected from both the elements and birds over the long winter.

Step 5: Blanket with a Mulch or Seeding Fabric

Snow will add a cover for the long course but using a mulch pellet or a blanket of bio degradable fabric or Straw will give it an extra layer of protection over those long winter months. Watering is not a necessary step as the Spring thaw will induce germination at its natural time.

NEW BEGINNINGS INSTRUCTIONS

A lawn like green velvet!

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Sprayer
- Hi-Yield** Kill-Z-All (not the 365 year-long product)

When lawn quality is unacceptable, renovation may be necessary. The following conditions may warrant starting over:

- **Excessively compacted soil**
- **Greater than 50% weeds or bare soil**
- **Excessive thatch**

If you decide to undertake this project, the best time to renovate your lawn is late summer, after the heat of summer.

You can successfully renovate you lawn during other times in the season if you follow these steps:

Step 1: Mow Area To Be Renovated

Mow grass to a height of 1½ inches.

Step 2: Spray Weeds & Grasses With Non-Selective Weed & Grass Killer

Weed and grass killers need to be applied to an actively growing plant. The best time to kill weeds is when the temperature is above 60 degrees fahrenheit. Weed and grass killers are absorbed through the plant tissue and then translocated to the roots. This will kill perennial broadleaf and grassy weeds. Wait at least a week to see if all weeds have been killed. If green weeds are still present, spray the weed and grass killer again. Weeds and grasses should be dead before rototilling occurs. If perennial weeds are not killed to the root, rototilling will propagate and increase the number of weeds in the new section of the lawn.

**See a Gertens lawn and garden expert about spray methods and equipment.*

**Be mindful that these same chemicals will kill your garden. Beware of perimeter distance and wind spread. Even a small amount of leaves can destroy a healthy plant.*



PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED

SUNNY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

Premium Sunny Mix

The best heat tolerance and rapid establishment of the best bluegrass varieties today. Formulated to tolerate disease, light shade, and moderate wear. Optimal results occur when fertilized 3 to 4 times a year. Adequate irrigation is required throughout the year for top performance. **Suggested uses:** home lawns, new seeding, over-seeding, over-seeding newly sodded lawns, and golf course rough areas. **Now with Tazo for root establishment.**

All Purpose Quick Sunny Mix

Perennial & Annual ryegrass make up 40% of the blend for quick establishment. The creeping red fescue adds light shade tolerance but requires 50% or more sunlight. After establishment, requires low to medium maintenance. Two to three times a year fertilization is recommended for optimal performance. Irrigation is desirable in drought conditions. This mix gives immediate results, but the addition of annual seed may need additional upkeep.

All Blue Blend

The BEST mix for over-seeding lawns that have been sodded. Rapid establishment. Dark green color with superior disease tolerance. Optimal performance requires 4 to 5 times a year fertilization under adequate irrigation. Can be seeded to establish a new lawn, instead of sodding. Very sun-loving and the best heat tolerance. **Suggested use areas:** establishment of new lawns, over-seeding sodded lawns and over-seeding existing lawns for more bluegrass establishment, sod farms, golf course fairways.

Super Salt Tolerant Mix (Boulevard Repair)

A low maintenance mix for any high pH soils and low maintenance lawns. Boulevard mix has tolerance to lightly shaded areas. Heavier shade areas along boulevard add chewing fescue or creeping red fescue. **Suggested use areas:** street side lawns, sidewalks between a lawn and the street, along the side of driveways on low maintenance lawns, high pH soils, around pine trees in partly shaded areas and low maintenance lawns. **Now with Tazo for root establishment.**

Sun and Shade Mix

Full sun, light to moderate shade. 40% fescues in this mix is an excellent mix for shaded areas. Optimal performance includes 3 to 4 fertilizations per year and seasonal irrigation. 60% Bluegrass and Perennial ryegrass serve the sunny areas. The original ALL PURPOSE seed mix for sun or shade areas. Minnesota grown perennial ryegrass insures persistent results. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns in shade to full sun, golf course roughs, light shade trees, over seeding sod lawns where trees have matured and now provide some shade.

Sandy Soil Mix

The best mix for sandy soil areas with lack of moisture. It is also good for sun and partial shade with low maintenance. Fertilize twice a year. A combination of bluegrass with penetrating roots and fescues to cover the surface.

***The grass seed
you know will grow!***





PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED

SHADY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

4 Fescue Low Grow, No Mow Mix

Because of its formula of 4 Fescue blend, it is perfectly designed for shady and drought tolerance and expects only minimal mowing per year. The addition of a strand of Ryegrass helps give it a spine and thus can hold shape better between mowing. Perfect for hillsides and transition areas for lawn patches hard to get to. It will not thrive in sun or extreme heat.

Premium Sun and Shade Mix

Full sun, light to moderate shade. 40% fescues in this mix is an excellent mix for shaded areas. Optimal performance includes 3 to 4 fertilizations per year and seasonal irrigation. Under moist or heavy shade use DENSE SHADE MIX or ULTRA DENSE SHADE. The original ALL PURPOSE seed mix for sun or shade areas. Minnesota grown perennial ryegrass insures persistent results. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns in shade to full sun, golf course roughs, light shade trees, over seeding sod lawns where trees have matured and now provide some shade. **Now with Tazo for root establishment.**

Premium Medium Shade Mix

Best mix for moderate shade. Don't fertilize more than four times a year with ample irrigation. Great for areas with moderate tree canopy. Fertilize 3-4 times a year and water as needed.

Premium Dense Shade Mix

The BEST heavy shade tolerant mix available on the market today. JRK Seed Dense Shade Mix will thrive in heavy to modest shade in moist conditions. Under tree use requires a good constant irrigation for success with competing moisture use from nearby trees. Does not need to be fertilized more than 4 times a year, with emphasis on making sure ample irrigation is supplied to area. **Suggested use areas:** part shade to sun areas, under pine trees that are trimmed up to mow under, all shade trees at the heaviest canopy and over seeding problematic shaded areas that all other grasses have problems establishing.

Ultra Dense Shade Mix

Great for extremely dark shady areas. With trivalis strain for those areas where nothing else will grow. Makes a great option for underneath a tree's canopy. Fertilize 2-3 times a year and water as needed.





PROFESSIONAL GRADE GRASS SEED

SPECIALTY GRASS SEEDS & BLENDS

Cabin Mix

For low to no maintenance lawns with little or no irrigation. Can be used on hillsides or steep slopes for quick soil cover. Continue to supplement with our straw or seed blankets. Not intended for medium or high maintenance lawns. Will tolerate full sun to part shade areas. After establishment requires 1 or 2 per season fertilizations for proper plant health. A great mix for weekend homes or cabins where maintenance is low.

Premium Heavy Traffic

Requires a good maintenance practice. Optimal performance requires 5 times a year fertilization schedule, adequate irrigation, and 1½ to 2 inch mowing heights. Superior wear tolerance and disease resistance. Contains the newest genetics of wear performance in the country. Contains top rated bluegrasses that are heat and wear tolerant. **Suggested use areas:** premium home lawns, walking paths, picnic areas, football fields, soccer fields, baseball fields, dog traffic wear issues, new seeding and over seeding. **Now with Tazo for root establishment.**

Country Lawn Mix

Ideal for sunny to part shade areas. Fertilization 1 to 2 times per year. Irrigation is optional, but seasonal irrigation is desirable under severe drought if available. High tolerance to wear and tear under low maintenance. **Suggested use areas:** home lawns under heavy wear and low maintenance, parks and picnic areas, camping areas, repair of pet damages in lawns, pet traffic areas, walking paths.

Premium Sod Over-Seeder Mix

A mix designed for over seeding sunny lawns where rapid establishment is desired. Low to medium maintenance and can be over seeded any time during the year. Slight shade tolerance, moderate wear resistance. No fescue in this mix means low tolerance for heavy to part shade areas. Has good deep green color with moderate to higher maintenance. Needs constant irrigation for proper establishment from seed until established. One to 3 times a year fertilization schedule. For darker color, fertilize more than two times yearly. **Suggested use areas:** over seeding in sunny lawns, establishment of new lawns, moderate wear areas, newly to established sod lawns, golf course fairways, all home lawns. **Now with Tazo for root establishment.**

Contractor Mix

An ideal blend for before and after construction projects. A high formula of both Annual and Perennial Ryegrasses gives quick cover in part to full sun. This ensures against erosion or wear & tear until a durable and permanent planting solution.

Additional Specialty Grass Seeds & Blends

Honeybee Pollinator Mix

Creeping Red Fescue

Chewing Fescue

Annual & Perennial Ryegrass

Highway Mixes – Wet and Dry

Deer Plot Mixes

Dutch White Clover

Red Clover

Micro Clover

Prairie Grass Mixes



Gertens

SOD INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Purchase your fresh sod at Gertens

Gertens features only the freshest blends of Northern Bluegrasses. And we stock them daily during peak season. What this means is purchase your sod only when you are immediately ready to lay it. The rolls do not hold well without water under hot summer temps. Buy early in the day to make sure we have inventory for your project.

Prep your layer of topsoil prior to laying. Then stagger the joints of the rolls like bricks so they align indirectly in a grid. Apply on slightly moist dirt, fill in cracks with topsoil and stake down each piece to hold in place. Use a lawn roller to smooth the surface make root contact into the soil.

Keep saturated with water, moderately moist for the initial period of 2 weeks until it is firmly rooted, then gradually reduce watering. In 2-3 months, it will be an established lawn and can be treated as such. At this point aeration can help smooth out lumps that settled in the process of taking root.



SOIL RECOMMENDATIONS

Gertens Soil Test Kit

Sometimes a good diagnosis of your soil will go miles to help with your lawn issue problems. No amount of tending or care can override poor conditions under the surface. We sell over-the-counter testing options. But for a complete analysis of your ground, consider a custom Gertens Soil Test Kit. Much like DNA testing, you mail samples of your lawn in a pre-paid envelope to a laboratory where it is analyzed by professional scientists. Within 7-10 days you will be given a detailed digital report which is also shared with us at Gertens. With these results, we can supply you with the exact products needed to adjust and sustain your lawn or garden – a solution that is uniquely YOURS!

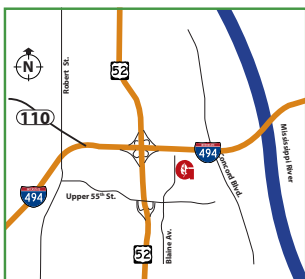


THINK GLOBALLY. ACT LOCALLY.

Gertens Yard Waste Recycling Service

At Gertens we recognize the concerns that today's homeowners have regarding the sustainability and maintenance of a beautiful lawn. We want to help you achieve a long-term, balanced approach to caring for your yard as well as the environment.

We invite you to bring your lawn clippings, leaves, and yard waste to any of these three locations:



Gertens Landscape Supply Yard located at:
5500 Blaine Avenue
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
Phone: 651-450-1501

Open year round



Gertens R.E.S. Facility located at:
805 Yankee Doodle Road
Eagan, MN 55121
Phone: 651-209-3511

*Open seasonally
April - November*



Gertens R.E.S. Facility located at:
12119 70th Street South
Denmark Township, MN 55033
Phone: 651-458-4412
Enter on 70th Street

*Open seasonally
April - November*

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