

Fertilise with 3:2:1 (SR) at a rate of 5kg per 100m² and water the area well.

Lawn dressing should also be applied every second year. A bag of lawn dressing will cover 4m². Lawn dressing will not help to level the soil. In order to level the soil, topsoil should be applied.

Month	Feeding	Tasks
July	-----7:1:3 (21)-----	Water once a month
August	-----7:1:3 (21)-----	Water regularly
September	-----3:2:1 (SR)-----	Water regularly
October	-----LAN (if lawn is green)	Water regularly / Watch out for fungus
November	-----3:2:1 (SR)-----	Water regularly
December	-----LAN-----	Water regularly
January	-----3:2:1 (SR)-----	Water regularly
February	-----LAN-----	Water regularly
March	-----3:2:1 (SR)-----	Water regularly
April	-----	Water regularly
May	-----	Water only twice
June	-----	Water only once

Shade areas

Mayford's Shade Over is an ideal seed lawn to sow for shady areas. If you prefer a creeping grass, then LM is the next best thing.

Happy Gardening!

Contact details:

For details and further information, come in to any GardenShop or call our GardenLine on 0860 100 403. Alternatively, e-mail us at info@gardenshop.co.za or log on to www.gardenshop.co.za

BRYANSTON

Cnr Main and Halifax Roads, Bryanston, JHB.
Tel: (011) 463-5773/4, Fax: (011) 463-5775
e-mail: info.btn@gardenshop.co.za

PARKTOWN NORTH

Cnr Jan Smuts Avenue and Bolton Road, Parktown North, JHB.
Tel: (011) 447-2368, Fax: (011) 880-1640
e-mail: info.ptn@gardenshop.co.za

FOURWAYS

Cnr William Nicol and Monte Casino Boulevard, Fourways, JHB.
Tel: (011) 465-2226, Fax: (011) 465-2712
e-mail: info.fws@gardenshop.co.za

CONSTANTIA

Cnr Doordrift and Nursery Roads, Constantia, CT.
Tel: (021) 794-5015, Fax: (021) 794-4653
e-mail: info.cta@gardenshop.co.za



Lawns

An expert guide to the planting and care of Lawns



GardenCare



Establishing a New Lawn

Basic preparation for establishing a lawn is the same irrespective of the method of planting. It consists of preparation, planting, watering, mowing and weeding.

Preparation

Grade the surface so that all storm water can run off easily, away from buildings. Remove all weeds, rocks and rubble. The soil can be improved by spreading compost over the entire area (1 bag/2m²).

Spread superphosphate at a ratio of 70g per m² and 2:3:2 at 140g per m².

Thoroughly wet the area to be planted.

Turn the soil over to a depth of 100mm - 150mm at the same time incorporating the compost and fertiliser. Remove any rocks and debris that may have been unearthed during the digging. Level the surface.

If required, an irrigation system should be installed at this stage. Make sure that all trenches are backfilled and compacted to avoid subsidence at a later stage.

Planting

There are various methods of planting out lawn. The fastest and easiest method is instant lawn or roll out lawn. You can obtain grass in squares and lay it edge to edge. This gives you instant cover but is not the most economical method.

Grass is also available in plugs. Here you can plant out tufts of grass approximately 25cm apart. The grass should cover within 6 weeks.

The most economical way of planting grass is to grow it from seed. Depending on the season, the grass should take about 8 weeks to cover. Simply sow the seed on your prepared area and rake it over lightly.

Watering

Instant lawn should be watered twice a day for the first week, once a day for the second and thereafter twice a week. Plugs should be watered daily for the first 2 weeks and thereafter every second day. Seed needs to be watered twice a day until the plants are sturdy enough. Daily watering is then adequate until the lawn starts to "knit". Thereafter water twice a week. This is purely a guideline and you should adjust the watering according to the weather and soil

conditions in your garden. A rule of thumb is to ensure that the ground never dries out until the plants are well established.

Mowing

As soon as the grass blades reach 40mm, lightly top the lawn with a rotary mower. Thereafter, the cutting height can be gradually reduced to the desired cutting height for the lawn.

Weeding

Should weeds appear they should be hand weeded out as soon as possible.

Care of existing lawns

A spring treatment is essential for a healthy lawn. This treatment should only apply to the creeping grasses such as Kikuyu, LM, Bayview, Skaaplaas etc.

During August or early September, rake the lawn vigorously with a metal tooth rake to remove the old grass and to loosen the soil. The lawn should be cut as short as possible to remove all old and dislodged grass. (This process should only be carried out every second year.)