


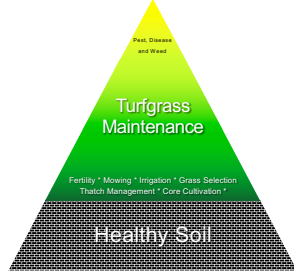
Fall Lawn Care: Preparing your Yard for Winter

Pamela J. Sherratt
The Ohio State University

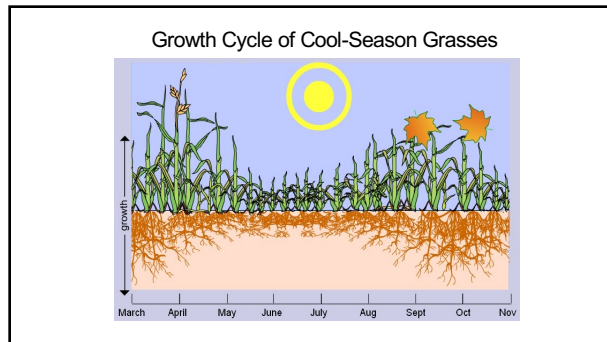


1

Treat Turf Like Any Other Plant



2




3

Turfgrasses for Lawns in Ohio

- Kentucky bluegrass
- Perennial ryegrass
- Tall Fescue
- Fine Fescue



4

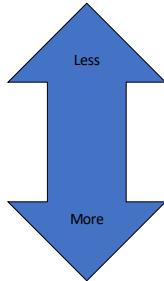


- Most lawns are a mixture of different grass species



5

Level of Required Maintenance

- Fine Fescue
- Tall Fescue
- Perennial ryegrass
- Kentucky bluegrass
- Creeping bentgrass



6

Rhizome

Kentucky Bluegrass

- High Maintenance
 - Water
 - Fertilizer
 - Regular mowing
- Long winter dormancy
- Not shade tolerance
- Some diseases
- Some insects pests
- Slow to establish from seed
- High quality lawn
- Very pretty
- Wear tolerant

7

Kentucky Bluegrass

- Kentucky bluegrass dormancy during drought



8

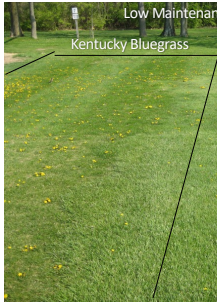

Kentucky Bluegrass

Not shade tolerant - Can produce thatch



9

Low Maintenance Situation

Kentucky Bluegrass Tall Fescue

10

Tall Fescue



11

IMPROVED/TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

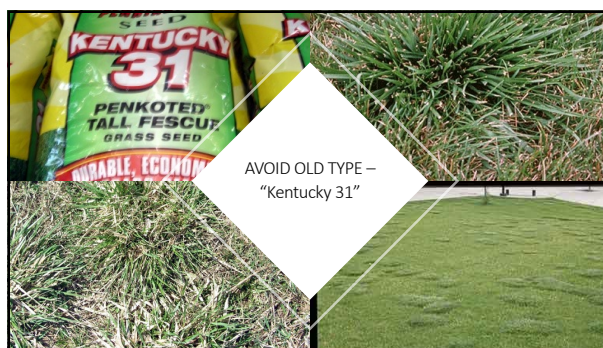
- Low Maintenance
 - Water
 - Fertilizer
 - Regular mowing
- Medium winter dormancy
- Few diseases (brown patch)
- Few insect pests (broadwing)
- Fairly quick to establish from seed
- Medium/high quality lawn
- Wear tolerant
- Shade tolerant
- Drought tolerant



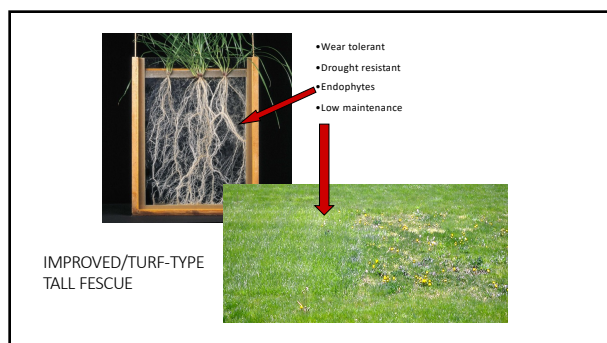
12



13



14



15



16



17



18

Fine Fescues

- Low Maintenance:
 - Water
 - Fertilizer
 - pH
 - Shade tolerant
- Some diseases
- Some insects/pests
- Relatively slow to establish from seed
- Don't like wet, hot conditions
- Not very wear tolerant



19

Perennial ryegrass

- the quick grass!

- Fast
- Wear tolerant
- Can compete with spring weeds (crabgrass)
- Not good in drought
- Disease susceptible



20

Beware annual ryegrass!



CONTRACTORS MIXTURE				NET WT. 15 LBS.
PURE SEED	VARIETY	KIND	GERMINATION	ORIGIN
40.00%	INTEGRA PERENNIAL RYEGRASS		90%	OR
24.00%	GULF ANNUAL RYEGRASS		90%	OR
14.50%	BOREAL RED FESCUE		80%	CANADA
9.50%	KENBLUE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS		80%	VA
0.50%	OTHER CROP SEED			
1.70%	INERT MATTER			
0.40%	WEED SEED			
NOXIOUS WEED SEED:				
27	ANNUAL BLUEGRASS PER LB. (1.7 PER OZ.)			
27	HAIRY CHESS PER LB. (1.7 PER OZ.)			
18	CURLY DOCK PER LB. (1.1 PER OZ.)			

21

What is this grass?



22

Microclover Lawns



Article worth a read: <https://dengarden.com/gardening/Clover-Lawns>

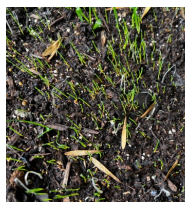
23

Fall Lawn Care Tips

- Too late to seed (Aug 15 - Sept 15)
- Not too late to sod
- Mowing in the fall
- Fall Fertilization
- Weed Control
- Winter 2023
 - dormant seeding



24



Seeding in the fall

25



26



Using Sod

27

Dormant Seeding – *some thoughts*

In February-March 2023, if there is no snow cover, and if weather allows, apply dormant seed to bare/thin spots, using walk-behind equipment that won't cause soil disruption and compaction. During the freezing and thawing cycles in late winter, the soil structure changes due to the swelling and shrinkage of soil particles, the volume of frost-susceptible soils increases, and pores expand due to ice expansion during freezing. These soil pores offer a great opportunity for seed:soil contact. Once the soil temperatures get consistently about 50 degrees Fahrenheit, the seed is in place to germinate. Dormant seeding offers a kick-start to the season, but seed rates should be slightly higher to compensate for any seed loss. Dormant seeding during the "off" season might also offer a benefit to turf managers who are struggling with labor during the busy season.

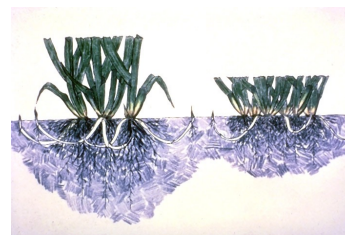
28

MOWING in the Fall



29

- Lawn Height = 3-4 inches



30

1/3 rule



31

Return Clippings

Grass Clipping = 1/3 Turf's Annual Nitrogen Needs



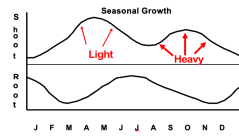
Mulching Mower

Compost

32

Fertilizer Timing Cool-Season Lawns

Cool Season Species	Management	
	Low	High
Creeping Bentgrass <i>Agraria paspalis</i>	1 - 3	3 - 8
Tall Fescue <i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	1 - 2	3 - 5
Fine Fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> , <i>F. longistyla</i>	0.5 - 2	2 - 4
Perennial Ryegrass <i>Lolium perenne</i>	2 - 4	4 - 6
Kentucky Bluegrass <i>Poa pratensis</i>	1 - 2	2 - 4
Improved:	1.5 - 3	3 - 6



33

Natural Fertilizers

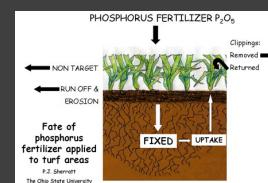


34

Nitrogen

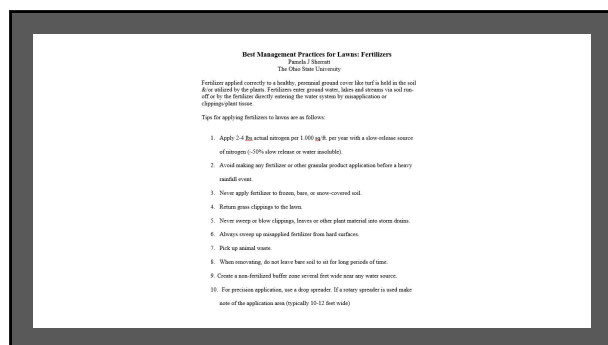


35



- Lawn care is generally not a source point of Phosphorus overload in water. But we still need to be conscious of where we apply!

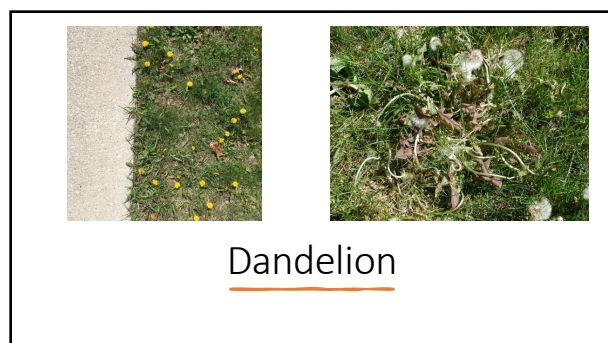
36



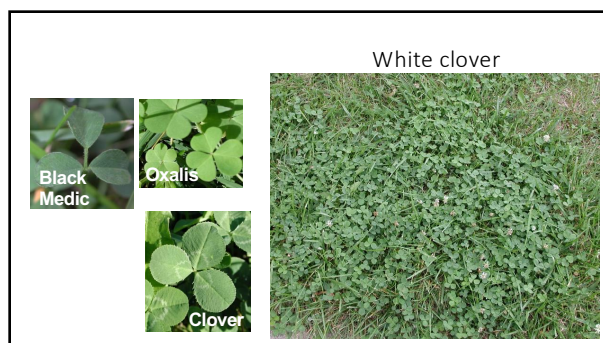
37



38



39



40



41

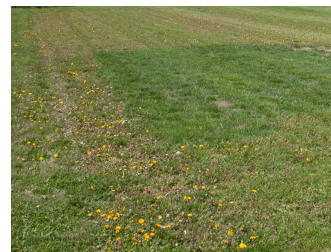


42

Perennial Broadleaf Weed Control

• Postemergence herbicides in the fall

- More effective than spring application
 - Better CHO translocation
 - Control not always immediately apparent
- Landscape and garden species are less susceptible to drift injury
- Winter annuals are also controlled



43

44

Broadleaf Herbicide Combination Products

	2,4-D	2,4-DB	MCPA	MCP	Dicamba	Chlorpyrif	Imazapyr	Quinclorac	Trifluralin	Carfentrazone	Sulfentrazone	Pyrithiufen	Florasulam	Flumioxazin	Haloxyfen
Gordon's Amine 400															
Scotts Step 2, Turf Builder Weed & Feed, Gordon's Weed & Feed															
Gordon's Trimec, Preen Lawn Broadleaf Weed Control, Spectracide Weed Stop For Lawns Plus Crabgrass Preventer, Ortho Weed B Gon, BioAdvanced Weed Killer for Lawns, Ace Lawn Weed Killer Concentrate, Ferti-Lome Weed-Out Broadleaf Weed Control															

*Products mentioned are for example only and do not constitute endorsement to the exclusion of other products that may be similar.

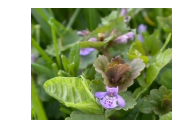
45

Broadleaf Herbicide Formulations

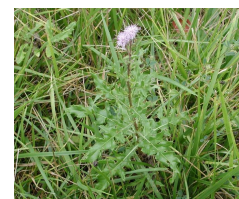
- Granular
 - More acceptance among consumers
 - Often formulated with fertilizers
 - Most broadleaf herbicides are soil-active, root absorbed
- Liquid
 - Far more effective
 - Better coating, more penetration

46

Creeping charlie




47



Canada thistle

48



Wild violet



49

Broadleaf Herbicide Combination Products	2,4-D	2,4-DP	MCPA	MCPP	Dicamba	Clpyralid	Fluroxypyr	Quinclac	Tridopyr	Carfentrazone	Pyrflufen	Florasulam	Flumioxazin	Haloxyfen
Bonide Chickweed, Clover and Oxalis Killer														
Concept, BioAdvanced Lawn Weed & Crabgrass Killer, Ortho Weed B														
Gon plus Crabgrass Control, Bonide Duraturf Crabgrass Plus														
Ortho Weed B Gon Chickweed, Clover & Oxalis Killer														
Bonide Weed Beater Ultra														
Scotts Roundup for Lawns														
Surge, Spectracide Weed Stop2														
Out Plus, Spectracide Weed Stop														

*Products mentioned are for example only and do not constitute and endorsement to the exclusion of other products that may be similar.



50

Prostrate knotweed

Spurge

51

Prostrate spurge

52

Annual Broadleaf Weed Control

- Spring Annuals such as knotweed
- Summer Annuals such as spurge
- **Winter Annuals such as henbit**
- All germinate at different times of year and come back each year from seed. Control before they set seed.

53




Common Chickweed

54

- Purple Deadnettle



55



Hairy Bittercress



56

Winter annual broadleaf weed control

- Preemergence herbicide in September
- Is better than:
- Postemergence in November
- Is better than:
- Post emergence in April

57

Familiarize yourself with
natural/organic products
if interested in using them

58

What is Organic?



Natural



Non-toxic



Low impact



Minimum risk

59

Natural / Organic Weed Control Products

Non-selective

- Various plant oils
- Horticultural Vinegar
- Herbicidal Soaps
- Pelargonic acid

Selective

- Corn Gluten Meal
- Chelated iron
- A.D.I.O.S.
- Halo

60

Corn Gluten Meal

- Byproduct of wet milling process of corn
- 10% nitrogen by weight



61

Kentucky Bluegrass Germination 21 Days after Seeding



Untreated CGM 20 LBS/M CGM 40 LBS/M

62

Corn Gluten Meal

- Less effective in year 1
- Crabgrass control >85% has been observed in 2nd and subsequent years of use



63

How to Use Corn Gluten Meal

- Spring application for crabgrass
- Fall application for broadleaf weeds
- 20 lbs product per 1000 square feet
 - 10% N by weight
 - 2 lbs N per 1000 square feet

64

Chelated Iron

Selective because iron is more toxic to broadleaf plants than to grasses

Can discolor turf in warm weather

Several products available

65


Some Chelated Iron Containing Products

- Fiesta
- Iron X
- Natria
- All are 26.52% Iron
- Typical rate 25.2 fl oz / 1000 ft² and 240 GPA

66

Fiesta

- Dandelion
- White clover
- Applied: Sept 20, Oct 11
- 4% Solution
- 5 gal per 1000 ft²




September 20

67

Fiesta


- Dandelion
- White clover
- Applied: Sept 20, Oct 11
- 4% Solution
- 5 gal per 1000 ft²



September 21 (1 DAI)

68

Weed Cover on August 14

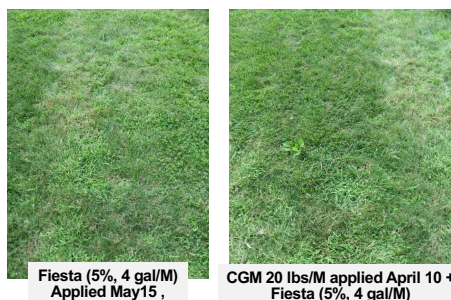


Untreated

CGM 20 lbs/M applied April 10

69

Weed Cover on August 14



Fiesta (5%, 4 gal/M)
Applied May 15,
June 15, July 15

CGM 20 lbs/M applied April 10 +
Fiesta (5%, 4 gal/M)
Applied May 15, June 15, July 15


70

What are these strange
new weeds in my lawn?


71

Lesser
Celandine

- *Ranunculus ficaria*
 - Introduced as ornamental
 - Native to Europe
 - AKA Fig buttercup, pilewort
- Spring ephemeral
- Invasive



72



Lesser Celandine Control

- Manual
 - Be sure to remove bulbs
- Non-Selective
 - Glyphosate
 - Temperature should be above 50 degrees
- Selective control in Turf
 - Choose a herbicide with at least 2 of the following: MCPA, triclopyr, dicamba

73



Remove perennial grasses from the lawn after they have greened up

74



Orchardgrass

75

Quackgrass



76



Nimblewill

77



78

Perennial Grasses

- For most, no selective control options available
- Preemergence herbicides are not an option
- Must use glyphosate and then reestablish turf

79



Damage from skunks & raccoons

80

Ohioline
Ohio State University Extension

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

CFAES Home Find a Fact Sheet About OSU Extension

Natural Organic Lawn Care

Reviewed by Dr. David Gardner, Associate Professor, Turfgrass Science, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science
Original Authors: Jane C. Martin, Allyn Eickholt, Joanne Dole

More people are asking for information regarding organic lawn care. Many people want to decrease or eliminate the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides in their home lawns. There is concern that some products may be harmful to humans, beneficial insects, wildlife and pets. With proper management, homeowners can use naturally occurring resources to maintain a home lawn without

HYG-4031
Date: Jun 16, 2017
To print a fact sheet

- <https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/hyg-4031>

81

Thank you!

Pam Sherratt
Sherratt.1@osu.edu
 Twitter: @Grassybrit
 Website: u.osu.edu/athleticfieldmanagement

82