



JACARANDA WEST HOA #1

LAWN CARE

Watering New Lawns. Three quarter inch of water. Weeks 1 & 2 every day; weeks 3 & 4 every other day; weeks 5 & 6- twice a week; weeks 7 & 8 once a week. Sarasota County watering regulations allow this. Do not allow soil to dry out until seeds have germinated or until sod or plugs have rooted.

Watering Established Lawns. Three quarter inches of water. Water St. Augustine once a week. Water Bahia, Bermuda and Zoysia when blades fold and lawn turns patches of bluish gray. Bahia, Bermuda and Zoysia are drought tolerant, and once established, survive extended periods without irrigation; Bahia is best.

Mowing heights. Bahia 3 in.: Bermuda 1 ½ inches; St. Augustine, 3-4 in; Zoysia, 2 in. Remove no more than 1/3 of leaf length to attain these heights. For example, Bahia should be cut when about 4 in. in height.

Mowing new lawns. Mow new lawns when grass reaches 3-4 inches..

Fertilizing. A **turf** fertilizer should be applied in March and October every year. New lawns should be amended with **starter** fertilizer when planted, and fertilized again after 6 weeks. Fertilizer may not be applied June-Sept. in Sarasota County, except on new lawns.

Nitrogen. A soil nitrogen supplement (e. g. Milorganite) should be applied in May every year. Nitrogen may not be applied June-Sept. in Sarasota County.

Iron. A soil iron supplement (e. g. Ironite) should be applied every year in March to Bahia lawns and in June to St. Augustine lawns.

Weeds. The convenient way to control weeds is to apply a “weed and feed” product. The “Florida Friendly” way is to selectively spray weeds with a lawn week killer. READ THE LABELS. Do not apply a product that will harm your type of turf grass. Annual weeds can be prevented from germinating from seeds in the soil by applying a pre-emergent herbicide such as a “Crabgrass Preventer” around Feb. 1.

Over seeding Thinning Lawns. Bahia and Common Bermuda lawns thin with time. They may be **over seeded** to fill them in. Bahia and Bermuda seeds are readily available. Rake seed into the existing lawn and treat as you would a newly seeded lawn.

Written By: Bruce Dayton