



*Your Experts for Life*

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## **Lawn Establishment**

By

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Regional Extension Agent

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- I. Visual Assessment
  - A. Sketchings
    1. Existing
      - a) Structures
      - b) Features
    2. Desired
      - a) Structures
      - b) Features
  - B. Mapping
- II. Thinking Process
  - A. Type of Turfgrasses
  - B. Requirements of Turf Selected
  - C. Site Adaptability of Turf
- III. Partial Renovation
  - A. Put in Walkways
  - B. Put in Driveways
  - C. Put in Retaining Walls
- IV. Total Renovation
  - A. Treat with ROUNDUP®
  - B. Physical Removal of Material
- V. Site Preparation (Two Weeks After ROUNDUP®)
  - A. Add Organic Matter or Sand
  - B. Shape and Contour
- VI. Take Soil Samples
- VII. Add Soil Nutrients (Disk In 4 to 6 Inches)
  - A. Lime as Recommended plus up to 500 lbs./acre
  - B. Fertilize as Recommended
- VIII. Plane, Drag, and Rake Smooth
- IX. Install Drainage System

- X. Install and Check Irrigation System
  - A. Leaks
  - B. Water Distribution
- XI. Re-Smooth Where Disturbed
- XII. Irrigate to Depth of 3 Inches, 24 Hours Before Planting
- XIII. Irrigate to Depth of 4 Inches Immediately After Planting
- XIV. Irrigate Daily (reduce by 2 week intervals to a once a week frequency)
  - A. Sod - For 15+ Minutes, 2 Times/Day
  - B. Springs or Plugs - For 15+ Minutes, 4 Times/Day
- XV. Add Ammonium Nitrate
  - A. Sod - 1 lb./1,000 sq. ft., Bi-Weekly (1 month)
  - B. Sprigs or Plugs - 1 lb./1,000 sq. ft., Weekly  
(For 2 months, or until satisfactory growth is observed.)
- XVI. Topdress With Sand to Eliminate Depressions
  - A. Footprints
  - B. Tire Tracks
  - C. Wash
- XVII. Mowing
  - A. Initially at 2 inches, then gradually reduce height to desired setting.

**Caution:** Be sure that adequate root growth has taken place before cutting to prevent newly laid sod from being ripped up.

- XVIII. Fall Fertilization - October 15
  - A. Utilize a fertilizer such as 5-5-25, or 0-0-64, or equivalent at the rate of 2 to 4 pounds/1,000 square feet.

To have a good-looking lawn is expensive. Increase in cost is the result of irrigation, fertilizers, and your time, mowing, etc.

**Note: Plant turf when turf is appropriate. The situation may not lend itself to turf (slope, water, shade, etc.). In such a case, a ground cover may be more appropriate. Examples would be: Jasmine, Periwinkle, Ajuga, Leriop, Juniper, Ivies, Daylilies, Vetch, etc.**