

Soils

A practical understanding of your soil is essential in managing your lawn. Soil pH is perhaps the most crucial element. Most turf grasses perform best when the soil pH falls between 6.3 and 7.0. We recommend that a soil test be performed annually to check the pH values as well as other nutrient levels within the soil profile. Any Carolina Fresh Farms Turf Center will be happy to send your soil samples to a soil testing laboratory **FREE** of charge.

Specialty Products

Verde-Lawn Hydro

Improves calcium availability in the soil and in the plant while providing improved soil moisture retention. When applied at a rate of 10 pounds per 1000 sq ft, Verde-Lawn Hydro will raise the soil pH in most soils up to one full point.

Headway

Controls a wider range of diseases than any other currently registered product, including dollar spot, brown patch and all other major turf diseases.

Pillar G

Combination of two effective ingredients to control and prevent numerous turf diseases.

Eagle

Excellent long-term preventative control of most diseases in turf.

Preemergent Herbicides

Preemergent herbicides are essential in providing a weed free lawn.

Never apply these products to a lawn which is not well established!

Fire Ant Control

If you are experiencing fire ant problems within your lawn, please contact someone at your local Carolina Fresh Farms. There are many ways to control these insects within your lawn.



Carolina Fresh Farms
serves you from 7 locations
across South Carolina.

Aiken

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Anderson/Greenville

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CENTIPEDE



FRESH FARMS

**YOUR LANDSCAPING
SUPPLY SPECIALISTS**



Growing Quality Sod For
More Than 30 Years
www.CarolinaFreshFarms.com

Carolina Fresh Farms would like to thank you for your interest in your lawn. It has the ability to become the best lawn in your neighborhood. We have combined over 50 years of production practices along with knowledge from our on-staff horticulturist and soil specialist in order to provide you with the most advanced and up to date practices to help you manage your lawn. If you are interested in more information about your lawn, please refer to the back of this brochure for the Carolina Fresh Farms Turf Center nearest you.



Background

Centipede was first introduced into the United States in the early 1900's. Originally from southern China, centipede has adapted well to the state of South Carolina. Centipede is one of the few turf grasses that performs well on acidic and infertile soils. Centipede grass has long been called the "Lazy Man's Grass" due to its slower growing habit and lack of nutrients required to grow. Many homeowners have complained of delayed spring green-up or even dead spots within their lawns. For the past four years, Clemson University has researched the effect of fertilization on centipede lawns. Although the research is ongoing, they have linked this phenomenon to over-fertilization. Centipede grass grows best when no more than 1 to 2 pounds of nitrogen per growing season is applied to the lawn. The 20-0-25 EXPO will provide 1 pound of nitrogen in a form that will continue to feed the lawn for up to 10 weeks as well as slow release potassium to help the lawn become more drought tolerant.

Chemicals/Fertilization

The most important part of managing a centipede lawn is providing fertilizer and preventing disease, insects and weeds. Below is a fertility program which will provide the essential elements your lawn requires to grow healthy.

Mowing

Centipede should be mowed at a height of 1 ½ to 3 inches. Always remember that the more stress a plant is under, the higher the lawn should be mowed. Frequency of mowing will also vary depending on the growth of the grass. Most centipede lawns should be mowed every 7 to 10 days. During drought conditions, it would be best to mow the lawn once every two weeks. As with any other lawn, a consistent mowing interval will improve the quality of the lawn.

Watering

Centipede lawns require 1 to 1 ½ inches of water per week during the growing season. Irrigation of the lawn should be performed in the early morning hours of the morning just before daylight. This practice will avoid any rapid evaporation of water before it reaches the lawn; yet allow the leaf tissue to dry quickly after the sun rises. Do not water your lawn every morning for short intervals. This process will only encourage shallow root growth. Instead, water your lawn for long periods two to three times a week.

Aeration

Aeration has two purposes. The first is to simply loosen the soil. The second is to prune the roots. Core aeration is the recommended method and should be performed every 2 years on a typical home lawn during the growing season. If your lawn receives heavy foot traffic, it would be advisable to aerate every year. Aeration should be performed during the growing season of the turf.

Fungus Alert!!!

Over the past few years, many lawn professionals have observed large patch disease in centipede lawns in both the late fall and early spring. This disease is similar to brown patch in fescue which is prevalent throughout the Carolinas. In order to protect the investment in your lawn, it is recommended you apply fungicide in the fall as well as the spring. There are many fungicides recommended for this fungus. It is suggested that you rotate between fungicides to avoid any resistance of the fungus to the chemicals applied for control. A fungicide should be applied once at the first of May and again in mid-August.



CENTIPEDE PROGRAM

Feb. 21st—Mar. 15th

0-0-7 .38% Prodiamine
Prevents summer weeds such as crabgrass.

April 1st — May 15th

Fungicide (Any)
Must rotate between these products.

Soil Samples
Take soil sample to test for pH as well as fertility levels of your lawn.

May 15th - May 21st
20-0-25 EXPO

All the nitrogen the lawn needs.

May 21st - June 7th
Aloft Insecticide

Prevents insects such as spittle bugs and grubs.

July 1st - Aug. 1st
6-1-11 7% Fe

Produces green color w/out flushing top growth late in the season.

August 15th—Sept. 15th
Headway, Eagle, or Pillar

Must rotate between these products.

Oct. 1st - Oct. 21st
0-0-7 .38% Prodiamine

Prevents winter weeds such as Poa annua.

Free Soil Samples

Soil samples are free. We suggest that soil samples be taken every 12 to 24 months. It is recommended that multiple samples should be taken when the environment is different. Soil sample bags are available at all Carolina Fresh Farms locations. Results will be analyzed by our staff and interpreted to the customer.