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
Used to adjust soil pH. When applied at a rate of 10 pounds per 1,000 sq. ft., Verde-Lawn Hydro will raise the pH as much as one point in as short as 4 to 6 weeks.

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.

LebanonTurf roots Verde-Lawn Hydro

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

Aiken
1103 Banks Mill Rd.
Aiken, SC 29803
(803) 649-4512
aiken@carolinafreshfarms.com

Anderson/Greenville
3620 Hwy. 81 N.
Anderson, SC 29621
(864) 224-4500
anderson@carolinafreshfarms.com

Charleston
2505 Savannah Hwy.
Charleston, SC 29414
(843) 556-7312
charleston@carolinafreshfarms.com

Columbia
110 Cohn Drive
Columbia, SC 29229
(803) 736-9060
columbia@carolinafreshfarms.com

Duncan/Spartanburg
12505 E. Wade Hampton Blvd.
Duncan, SC 29334
(864) 439-4655
duncan@carolinafreshfarms.com

Rock Hill
4372 Old York Road
Rock Hill, SC 29732
(803) 327-8686
rockhill@carolinafreshfarms.com

Summerville
2203 Bacons Bridge Road
Summerville, SC 29485
(843) 771-3634
summerville@carolinafreshfarms.com

PREPARING & INSTALLING SOD

CAROLINA FRESH FARMS

Your landscaping supply specialists!

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.

Preparing and Installing Sod

Step #1 Soil Sample: Take a soil sample 4" deep throughout the area you intend to sod and have it tested by a qualified consultant or drop it off at one of Carolina Fresh Farm's 7 locations. The sample should contain about 1 quart of soil. This soil report will tell you what your fertility requirements are and how to amend any deficient nutrients. Please allow 2 weeks for soil test results to return.
*Soil samples are not required but a great way to solve problems that may have caused your existing yard to die or decline. Soil amendments are cheap and easy to apply. All our Outlet locations carry everything you need to correct and amend your soil.

Step #2 Existing Grass: If you have existing grass in the areas that you are planning to put new grass, Roundup needs to be sprayed on the area you intend to replace before tilling. This may take more than one application to kill certain varieties of grass and weeds. Doing this will insure that you have less weeds and other grasses come up in your new lawn. Wait 7 days after spraying Roundup on your lawn when installing new sod.

Step #3 Roto-till the area to a depth of about 6 in. and remove any debris, rocks or dead grass. Remember to slope the site away from your foundation and keep the grade at least 1 inch below sidewalks and driveways.
The area will now need to be watered, in order to settle the area and provide a moist base for the sod. Watering the prepared soil before sod installation may be one of the most important steps to ensure a successful lawn. Providing a moist base for the sod dramatically reduces the amount of water required after the sod has been installed and is crucial in sod survivability.
*ALWAYS WATER THE SITE BEFORE LAYING THE SOD.

Step #4 Installation: Sod is delivered on pallets and placed around the site. Installation should begin immediately and watered within 30 minutes. Sod is a living plant that requires ground contact and moisture, especially for the first 2 - 4 weeks, to survive.
Start laying the turf along the longest straight line and progress in a staggered, brick-like pattern. The sod should be laid tightly together but not overlapped. When installation is completed, the entire lawn should be watered thoroughly. The new sod should be watered to a depth of about one inch within 30 minutes of installation. The new sod should be watered daily for the first two weeks but not saturated to the point of creating puddles. Then after the first two weeks, deep infrequent watering (3 times a week) encourages deep rooting thus better resistance to drought and other stresses the plant may experience. Traffic and use of your lawn should be restricted for a minimum of one month.

Step #5 Fertilizing new sod : **Starter Fertilizer** to a new yard is a cheap way of insurance on reducing stress and rapid rooting of your new sod. All sod goes through stress when it is cut and transplanted. Starter fertilizer can rapidly promote root growth to set the roots into your existing soil. Below is a schedule on when a new sod can be treated.

Fungicide on newly laid sod is like giving your yard a booster shot. A fungicide application will aid in disease control during certain times of the year. Centipede, Fescue and St. Augustine are grasses which are more susceptible to disease issues in warm wet environments. We recommend that these grasses be treated with fungicide when installed during times of disease development. Please consult with one of our experts to help select the best product available to address the needs of your new lawn.

Starter Fertilizer Application:
May 1st - August 31st
Centipede, Bermuda, St. Augustine, Zoysia

September 1st – April 15th
Fescue

Fungicide Application:
All Grass types
April 15th – September 15th

Starter fertilizer and fungicide is available at our outlet locations in 5 to 50lb bags.

Frequently Asked Questions

Maintenance: Some grass varieties require more work than others but in order to thrive in a particular environment all types require maintenance. Although there is no specific formula that covers, in detail, every type of grass care, there are several general rules that can be applied to all lawns:

Watering: Drought tolerance varies within each turf-type but most healthy lawns require about one inch per week. It is best to water in the morning with deep, infrequent applications to penetrate deep into the ground. This will encourage better drought resistance and healthier turf.

Mowing: Do not remove more than 1/3 of the grass blade during one cutting and use a sharp blade. Ideal grass height varies for each turf-type. Examine blades after mowing for a clean, scissor-like cut. A dull mower blade not only lessens the appearance of a yard it is also unhealthy to the turf. Although a reel mower is healthy for you and your lawn, they are only required on fine-bladed zoysia grasses.

Pests: Although weeds are common in turf, they are more prevalent in weak stands of turf. Therefore, weeds may be a sign of low fertility or some other pests. The two categories of weeds are broadleaf weeds and grassy weeds. Broadleaf weeds can be eliminated by keeping your turf healthy and mowing on a regular basis. Grassy weeds (i.e. common Bermuda, nut sedges, crabgrass, etc.) may require physical removal by hand or the use of a preemergent or post emergent herbicide.

Soil Testing: Fertilizer applications are dependent on the time of year and a soil sample. Complete fertilizer schedules for each grass variety are available from the farm outlets. Slow-release fertilizers, such as Lebanon Turf Products, last longer and decrease the risk of seriously injuring your lawn. Lebanon produces the most effective, longest lasting fertilizers on the market for all turf applications.
Most major problems such as disease, weed encroachment and drought damage can be avoided by routinely checking your lawn for preliminary signs of trouble and educating yourself on your specific type of grass.
Please call our toll-free number **1-800-675-7954** if you have any questions concerning installation or your lawn.