

Congratulations on your new TifTuf Lawn!

TifTuf bermudagrass is the most drought-tolerant turf available and requires **38% LESS WATER** than the industry standard bermudagrass. It was developed at the renowned University of Georgia breeding program and extensively researched at universities across the nation. It has now been professionally installed in your lawn.

- ✔ TifTuf pays you back! Save money every month on your water bill. It requires less watering once established.
- ✔ Greens up earlier in spring.
- ✔ Holds its color longer into the fall.
- ✔ Great traffic tolerance for pets, kids, etc.

How to care for your new TifTuf lawn from SodStar

First 14 days

March – November Installation: TifTuf installed in this window will take 7–21 days to root depending on weather.

December to February Installation: For dormant sod installed in the winter, water sufficient to keep the sod pad consistently moist until March and then follow directions below.

Irrigation: Daily irrigation is critical. Irrigate your new lawn until the soil underneath is wet.

Fertilizer: Apply Starter Fertilizer within 7 days of installation to ensure plant has the nutrients it needs to grow.

Maintenance

After your TifTuf lawn is rooted in (when you can't pull it up), you can back off irrigation and water only as needed. During periods of prolonged drought (two to three weeks with no rain), you may need to irrigate, but your new TifTuf lawn will require much less water to maintain than any other grass available.



TifTuf Lawn Maintenance Calendar

March through May

MOWING

Mow the lawn down to 1-1/2" to 2" tall when it first turns green. At the first mowing lower the mower height to the lowest setting and collect all the clippings. This will serve as a first dethatching each Spring. After the first mowing, leave the grass clippings on your lawn — they decompose quickly and can provide up to 25% of the lawn's fertilizer needs.

FERTILIZATION

Submit a soil sample to a soil-testing lab to determine nutrient and lime requirements. In the absence of a soil test, use a complete nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium, turf-grade slow release fertilizer with a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 ratio (for example, 12-4-8 or 16-4-8). Three weeks after TifTuf turns green, apply 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 ft² of lawn area.

WEED CONTROL

By the time dogwoods are in full bloom, apply preemergence herbicides to control crabgrass, goosegrass and foxtail. At least three weeks after the grass turns green, apply postemergence herbicides as needed (only if weeds are present). Always read the herbicide label, and follow the directions carefully. The label is the law!

June through August

MOWING

Keep the cut height at 1-1/2" to 2" tall.

FERTILIZATION

Every four to six weeks, apply 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 ft², using the March through May fertilization guidelines.

IRRIGATION

Follow the same irrigation guidelines as specified above for March through May. Irrigate to prevent drought stress.

WEED CONTROL

Apply postemergence herbicides as needed to control summer annual and perennial broadleaf weeds, but only if weeds are present, the grass is actively growing, and the lawn is not suffering from drought stress.

INSECT CONTROL

August is the best time to control white grubs because this is when they are small and close to the soil surface. To determine if white grubs are present, apply a soapy flush solution. Always read the insecticide label, and follow the directions carefully. The label is the law!

THATCH REMOVAL

Vertical-mow the lawn to remove thatch that is more than 1/2" thick. Thatch can be removed monthly if the lawn has sufficient time to recover in fall. A 2" or 3" blade spacing set 1/4" deep in one direction works best. Do not attempt to remove too much thatch at one time.

September through November

MOWING

Mow following the March through May guidelines until several weeks before the first expected frost. As winter approaches, raise the mowing height 1/2" if the lawn will not be overseeded.

FERTILIZATION

Apply no more than 1/2 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 ft² in September. Use a low-nitrogen, high-potassium fertilizer such as a 5-10-30, or supplement a nitrogen fertilizer source with 1 lb. of potash (K₂O) using 1.6 lbs. of muriate of potash (0-0-60), 2 lbs. of potassium sulfate (0-0-50) or 5 lbs. of sul-po-mag (0-0-22) per 1,000 ft².

IRRIGATION

Water to prevent drought stress. Follow the irrigation guidelines specified for March through May.

WEED CONTROL

Apply preemergence or postemergence herbicides as needed to control winter annual and perennial broadleaf weeds. Keep in mind that preemergence herbicides do not control existing perennial weeds. Apply postemergence herbicides only when weeds are present. If the lawn is to be overseeded with ryegrass, do not apply herbicides designed to control annual bluegrass.

December through February

MOWING

Dormant TifTuf that has not been overseeded with ryegrass for green color need not be mowed.

FERTILIZATION

Do not fertilize a warm-season lawn that has not been overseeded. For overseeded lawns, apply 1/2 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 ft² in December and February. In the absence of a soil test, use a complete nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (N-P-K) turf-grade fertilizer with a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 ratio (for example, 12-4-8 or 16-4-8).

IRRIGATION

Dormant TifTuf may need to be watered periodically to prevent dehydration, especially when warm, windy weather prevails. Watering is particularly important for lawns that have been overseeded.

WEED CONTROL

Apply broadleaf herbicides as needed.

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Never Stop Growing

SodStar Varieties: Bermudagrass: TifTuf, Tifway 419
Zoysiagrass: Zeon and Prizm • Centipede: TifBlair
Fescue/Bluegrass Mixture

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