

## LAWN CARE

The three main ingredients for a beautiful lawn are sunlight, nutrition and water.

### SUNLIGHT

Obviously, you cannot do too much about altering this part of the growth triangle. You can, however, by careful use of fertilizer and water, partially compensate for the absence of sunlight. Turf that is growing under trees can be greatly improved by additional water and by applying fertilizer twice as often under the tree as you do in the unobstructed areas. This additional fertilizer, to some extent, eliminates the competition between tree roots and grass roots for the available plant food. Remember, fertilizer applied in regular measured amounts is much better for good growth than massive doses on an infrequent or irregular basis.

### NUTRITION

To provide a lawn with sufficient nutrition for the seven month growing period (April through October) requires an application of fertilizer once a month at a rate of 1 pound per 100 square feet. In other words, a total of 7 pounds of fertilizer per 100 square feet over a seven month season. (Don't forget to feed under trees and shrubs more often). As an example, if you had a lawn area of 3500 square feet you would need  $7 \times 35 = 245$  lb. or 5, 50 lb. bags of fertilizer.

### WATER

Most lawns are watered too often and too little. A lawn properly watered will be given an inch of water. When using a sprinkler, set an aluminium pie plate in the sprinkler area and allow water to run until plate is full, then move the sprinkler to new location. Frequent light watering encourages shallow rooting and the grass will suffer from heat much more than a lawn that has been encouraged to root deeply for moisture.

### WEED PROBLEMS

Weeds, i.e. crabgrass, dandelions etc. all germinate better and grow better in a poor lawn. These seeds must have sunlight and be in contact with the soil in order to germinate and grow. Therefore, a thick, luxurious turf greatly reduces weed problems. It is less expensive to prevent weeds and disease than to eliminate them. Not to mention the satisfaction and enjoyment of a luxurious lawn.

### DISEASE PROBLEMS

There are some excellent disease and insect controls. But prevention is still cheaper than the cure. A healthy, properly fed lawn is much less likely to be bothered by insects or disease. If disease or insects are a problem, ask us, we can help.