

## Lawn Care



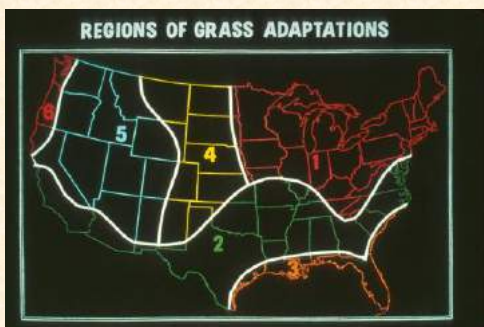
1

## Defending the “L” Word!!!

- Lawns add beauty to a landscape!
- Lawns provide a fire safe buffer!
- Lawns transpire and cool the area around your home!
- Clean safe place for kids to play!!!

2

## Pacific Northwest – Zone 6



3

## Best Turf For Zone 6: Cool Season Grass

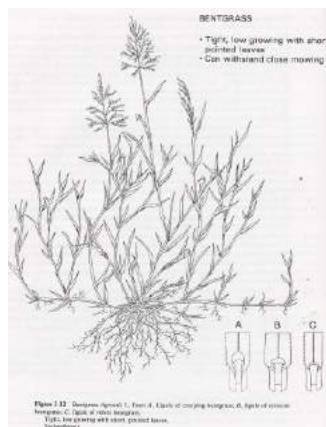
- **Bentgrasses:** can mow low, golf courses, high or low fertility
- **Fine Fescues (Chewings, Creeping Red):** small blades, tight turf, drought tolerant
- **Tall Fescue:** wide blade, drought tolerant, cold tolerant, shade tolerant
- **Perennial Rye (use named varieties):** tolerant to heat, drought, uniform look, disease problem

4

### Turf species adapted to cool climates

Turf species	Tolerance					Temp adaptation	Planting method
	Cold	Drought	Shade	Salinity	Wear/Traffic		
Annual ryegrass	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Cool-season	Seed
Colonial bentgrass	High	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Cool-season	Seed, sod, plugs
Creeping bentgrass	High	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Cool-season	Seed, sod, plugs
Hard fescue	High	High	High	Low	Low	Cool-season	Seed, sod
Kentucky bluegrass*	High	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Cool-season	Seed, sod
Perennial ryegrass*	High	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Cool-season	Seed, sod
Red fescue*	High	Moderate	High	Low	Moderate	Cool-season	Seed, sod
Rough bluegrass	High	Low	High	Low	Low	Cool-season	Seed

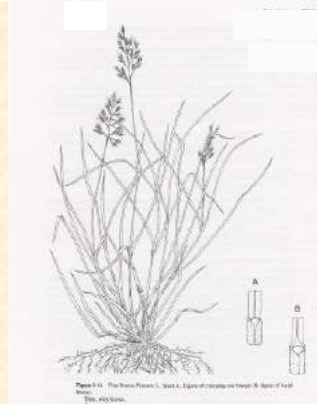
5



### Bentgrass

- Very fine textured.
- Lowest growing of all the grasses.
- Soft.
- Dense.
- Carpet-like turf.
- Creeping bentgrass is used for putting greens, lawn bowling, and tennis courts.
- High Maintenance.

6

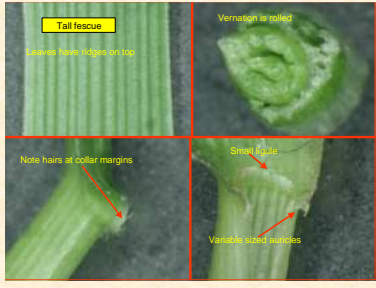


**Fine Fescue**

- Includes:
  - Creeping
  - Spreading
  - Chewings
  - Hard Fescues
- Delicate leaves
- Some shade tolerance.
- Competes well with tree roots.
- Drought tolerant
- Winter hardy.
- Lower maintenance.


7

**Tall Fescue**



- High shade, heat, and drought tolerance.
- Prefers high mowing.
- Requires little fertilization.
- Stands up very well to wear.
- Playgrounds and athletic fields.

8



**Ryegrass**

- Very wear tolerant.
- Germinates quickly.
- Grows swiftly.
- Does not require much water or fertilizer.
- As a bunch grass, does not easily fill in damaged areas.
- Low to moderate maintenance.

9

**Eco-Lawn  
Modern Sustainable Turf**



10

**Warm Season Grasses go Dormant in Winter**  
(Bermuda, Buffalo, Zoysia)



11

**Establishing a Lawn**

12

## Preparing Your Site



13

## Seeding a New Lawn

- Right time of year, Aug 15 - Sep 15
- Clean seedbed, lime if needed, N fertilizer
- Good soil-seed contact
- Seed, rake lightly, roll
- Irrigate lightly several times a day until germination of seeds
- Once seeds have germinated go to one watering a day

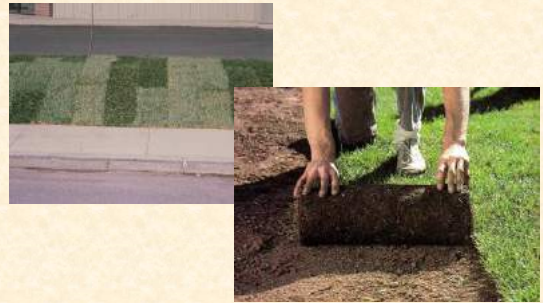
14

## Seeding Rates

Grass	lbs. seed/1000 sq. ft.
Colonial Bentgrass	1-2 lbs
Chewings or Red Fescue	4-8 lbs
Perennial Ryegrass	5-10 lbs
Tall Fescue	8-12 lbs

15

## Sod Creates a Fast Cover



16

## Sodding Requirements

- Same site prep as seeding
- Remember to put the green side up!
- Lay the first row along a straight line
- Place pieces together tightly
- Lay the sod on a staggered brick pattern
- Lay sod perpendicular to the slope
- Use a board to walk on sod

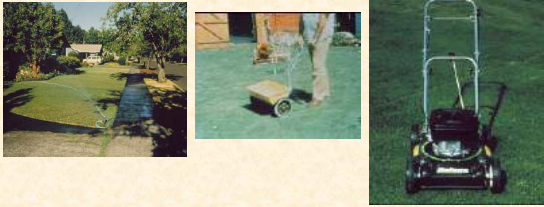
17

## Care for Your Sod

- Water your sod daily, keep the soil moist to a depth of 4-6 inches
- Stay off the sod for 10-14 days until it roots
- Start mowing in the third or fourth week
- One month after sodding fertilize your lawn

18

# Which Cultural Practice has the Greatest Impact on Your Lawn?



19

# Mowing Turf Correctly

20

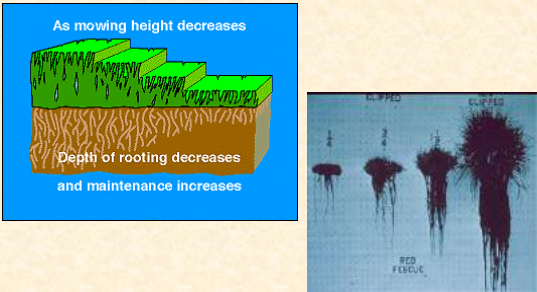
# Mower Evolution



Reel                      Rotary                      Mulching

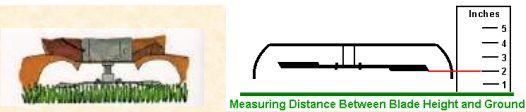
21

# Mowing Height Affects Rooting Depth



22

# Recommended Mowing Heights



Grass Type	Range	Best
• Colonial Bentgrass	0.5-1.5"	1.0"
• Fine Fescue	1.5-2.5"	2.0"
• Tall Fescue	2.5-3.0"	2.5"
• Perennial Ryegrass	1.5-2.5"	2.0"

23

# Mulching Clippings

- Recycles up to 50% of the Nitrogen fertilizer
- Does not contribute to thatch
- Bagging and removal of clippings is robbing the soil under your lawn, Don't take them to landfills

24

### Mowing Tidbits

- Drought hardy lawn - upper height range
- Best visual lawn - lower range, mow frequently
- Never remove more than 30-40% of leaf area
- Perennial Rye, Tall Fescue mulch mow best
- Try not to mow a wet lawn
- Alternate mowing patterns
- Keep the mower blade sharp!

25

### Lawn Shape



- Eliminate corners to save time
- Dark green areas planted with shrubs or ground cover

26

### Fertilizing at the Right Time

### Best Times to Fertilize

- **High Quality Turf:** April  
May 15 - June 15  
August 15 - Sept. 15
- **Medium Quality Turf:** April  
May 15 - June 15
- **Lower Quality Turf:** April 15 - May 15  
**OR** September

27

28

### Complete Fertilizers

- Fertilizers containing all three primary nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) are called complete fertilizers.
- If high levels of phosphorus and potassium are already present in the soil, supply nitrogen alone.
- For most established lawns, nitrogen is the only nutrient that needs to be supplied on a regular basis

**TURF BRAND**

**Fertilizer**  
**28 - 3 - 3**

**GUARANTEED ANALYSIS**

Total nitrogen (N)	28%
.....	28%
0.5% Ammoniacal nitrogen	
15.1% Urea nitrogen	
11.9% Other water soluble nitrogen	
0.5% Water insoluble nitrogen	
Available phosphate (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	3%
.....	3%
Soluble potash (K <sub>2</sub> O)	3%
.....	3%

Derived from: monoammonium phosphate, urea, methylene urea, muriate of potash

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

29

### Fertilization Rates (lbs./1000 sq.ft.) 2-3 X /yr.

To maintain **high to medium quality turf**

Bentgrass	1 lb actual N
Chewing Fescue	1 lb “
Tall Fescue	1 lb “
Perennial Rye	1-2 lbs “

- Leave the clippings!

30

### Fertilizer Tidbits

- When applying fertilizer use a whirly bird spreader to get more uniform coverage
- Drop spreaders generally leave stripes
- Keep the fertilizer off the driveway and out of the street. It washes into the storm sewer

31

### Fertilizer Applied With a Drop Spreader



32

### Proper Irrigation

33

### How Much Water Does a Lawn Need During Irrigation Season?

- Only as much as you give it
- 0-6 inches to survive
- 12-24 inches to look green and lush

34

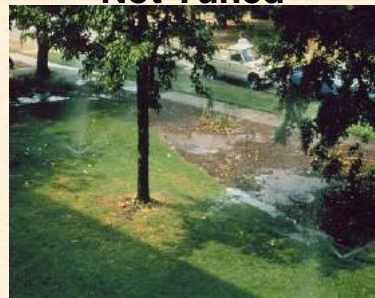
### Water Required During Growing Season

Total for Roseburg (26.5 inches)

April	2.3"
May	3.5"
June	4.4"
July	5.9"
August	5.5"
September	3.3"
October	1.6"

35

### Wasting Water Is a Problem If the System Is Not Tuned



36

## Use a Hose and Gear Drive Rotor Sprinkler



37

## Oscillating Sprinklers are Wasteful!



38

## Catch Can Testing Will Improve Your Efficiency



39

## Irrigation Tidbits

- Best time to water is morning
- Worst time is on a windy hot afternoon
- Watering at night may contribute to disease
- One or two deep soaks per week builds better roots than daily light irrigation

40

## Weed control

41

## Perfect Weed Free Turf?

- Golf course turf sets the standard
- Advertising has sold us on this idea
- Peer pressure in the neighborhood
- Have we gone too far?

42

## Perfect Lawn

### You haven't gone too far if:

- You use products as they are labeled
- Use lawn products in the right season
- Know that your goals are reasonable
- Know that a golf course turf isn't natural and takes a lot of skill and money to maintain.

43

## Management Techniques

- Prevention
- Cultural control
- Chemical control
  - No one technique alone will likely be successful; an integrated approach is always best!

44

## Prevention

- Monitor imported soils, soil amendments and nursery sod stock for "new" weeds
- Use preemergent herbicides to prevent weeds where appropriate
- Coordinate efforts with neighbors to manage hard-to-control weeds, such as field bindweed (morning glory)

45

## Cultural Control for Lawns

- Hoe or pull weeds (early & often!)
- Fertilize! Healthy thick turf out competes weeds
- Mowing height, don't cut it too low
- Water management, allow the top half inch of soil to dry out between watering, this inhibits weed seed germination.

46

## Chemical Control

- Always READ THE LABEL!!!
- Spot treat if possible
- Types of herbicides:
  - Selective/non-selective
  - Preemergent/postemergent
  - Contact/systemic
  - Organic/inorganic (organic/synthetic)

47

## Herbicides

- If your lawn is properly maintained, herbicides will generally not be necessary.
- When they are needed, use them as part of an integrated management program that includes good cultural practices.
- No single herbicide will control all lawn weeds, and not all herbicides can be used on all lawn species.



48



## Eco-Lawn



49

## Thatch and Compaction Management

50

## Thatch: Buildup of Living and Dead Stems & Roots



51

## Frequency of Thatch Removal

- Check your turf with a probe or knife every year. New lawns check after 2-3 years
- Turf that produces Heavy thatch:  
Creeping Bent, Fine Fescue
- Turf that produces Light thatch:  
Perennial Rye, Tall Fescue

52

## Rent a Coring Machine for Deep Thatch Buildup



53

## Plugs From Coring 3-4" Deep allow water and air to reach roots



54

# Turf Disease

55

# Red Thread Disease



56

# Red Thread

- Most common turf disease in Western Oregon occurs when temperature is cool (45-60F), grass wet
- Prevalent in fall on low fertility sites, reduce by fertilizing in September or October
- Worst on Perennial Rye and Fine Fescues

57

# Rust



58

# Insect Pests of Turf

59

# European Cranefly



60

## Turf Damage Shows January-April



61

## Cut Away Sod Showing Cranefly Larvae



62

## Dealing With Cranefly

- Monitor turf in January - March
- If patches are thinning dig up a piece of sod
- If Cranefly larvae are present (more than 15/sq.ft.) you may want to treat
- Mature larvae does damage Dec - April
- Treat in January with Sevin

63

## Other Thoughts for Cranefly Control

- Keep turf healthy
- Minimize thatch
- Develop a deep rooted turf through irrigation practices
- Allow turf to dry out a little in late August and September. This is egg laying season and dry sites don't attract adults

64

## Moss Control

65

## Dethatching Turf Controls Moss



66

## To Control Moss

- Dethatch
- Follow Dethatching with an iron fertilizer
- Specific iron and soap products will work
- Copper and Zinc products not good on turf
- Create a healthy dense turf
- If your grass is weak in shade change the type of grass and lift limbs on trees to reduce shade

67

## Can You Find Good Practices



68

## Can You Find Bad Practices



69