

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T WATER THE NEW GRASS SEED?

Grass seed will not germinate and there will be a higher occurrence of weeds and sparse grass growth.

WHAT PROBLEM CAN I ENCOUNTER WATERING NEW GRASS?

Over watering that results in **puddles** on surface. This can allow the seed to float around and seed will not be distributed evenly.

Run-off and seed movement on **sloping ground**. It may be necessary to reduce the watering time and repeat more frequently. A mulch over the seed may help reduce seed movement.

Over watering areas allows the soil to get **soggy and spongy**. It takes a long time for some soils to dry out.

Over watering areas that are **shaded** and need less water while sunny areas need more water. This is more prevalent with automatic sprinkler systems.

Uneven watering due to sprinklers that are clogged, not adjusted or inadequately designed. Always check and do necessary corrections to sprinkler system before watering seed.

Under watering new grass seed can cause the grass seed or new sprouts to dry out and die.

RESOURCES

<http://www.garden-counselor-lawn-care.com/watering-new-grass-seed.html>

<http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/lawnfertilization>

<http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/lawn-weed-prevention-and-control>

MAINTAINING YOUR NEW GRASS SEED

FREQUENTLY ASKED

QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF WATERING NEW GRASS SEED?

HOW MUCH SHOULD I WATER NEW GRASS SEED?

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T WATER THE NEW GRASS SEED?

WHAT PROBLEMS CAN I ENCOUNTER WATERING NEW GRASS?

WHEN OR HOW SHOULD NEW SEED BE MOWED?

HOW DO I CONTROL WEEDS IN MY NEW GRASS?

WHAT ARE BEST PRACTICES FOR MOWING MY LAWN?

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WHAT IS THE GOAL OF WATERING NEW GRASS SEED?

If grass seed or new sprouts dry out, they die. Your mission is to provide adequate moisture at all times. The pre-sprout phase is most critical. Your commitment to watering is crucial for growth. Germination time for new grass seed is from 5 to 30 days. During this time period it is important that the ground be moist. Seeds don't sprout at the same time, so continuous watering is essential for all the seed to grow.

Until the planted areas is densely showing green growth, don't allow it to dry out. **The percentage of seed germination is in your control**, though people often blame a thin lawn on "lousy seed that didn't come up"! It is possible to increase the percentage of germinating seeds.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I WATER NEW GRASS SEED?

New grass seed must be watered everyday for new growth of seed. Watering for 5-10 minutes a minimum of two times a day is essential for the seed to germinate.

Watering by hand or hose-end sprinklers must be consistently and evenly applied. It should provide approximately the same amount of moisture throughout, but can be less in shady areas.

Twice daily watering is essential until new grass is up,

then after one more week, reduce to once daily.



WHEN AND HOW SHOULD NEW SEED BE MOWED?

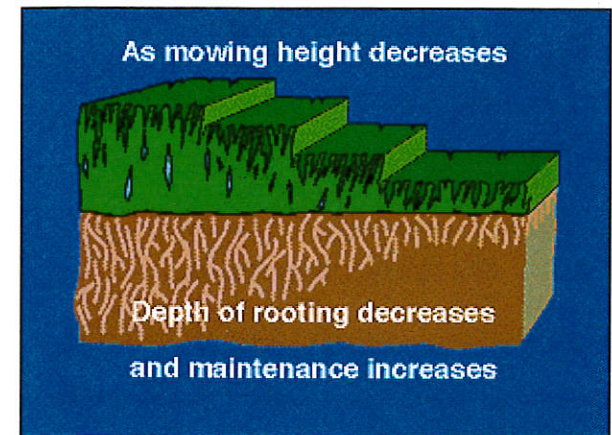
Do not mow until new planting is 4-5 inches tall. When it comes time to mow, set the mower to its maximum height. The purpose is to tidy the lawn and encourage the turf to spread.

If new seed is mowed too soon it may cause new grass seed that hasn't sprouted be blown away from side discharge mowers.

HOW DO I CONTROL WEEDS IN MY NEW GRASS?

Weeds are almost guaranteed to pop up in your lawn due to weeds in the soil and some in the grass seed. The best way to defeat them is to pull them as they come up and then add a fertilizer once your lawn has matured.

Best practice is to add fertilizer after you have mowed three times after grass seed has come up.



WHAT ARE BEST PRACTICES FOR MOWING MY LAWN?

General rule of thumb for mowing lawns are to mow high, mow often and leave clippings on the lawn.

Height of cut play an important role in mowing. Generally, the higher the cut the less maintenance required. This is primarily due to the fact that higher heights of cut promote deeper root growth into the soil. Shorter heights promote shallower root systems. Deep root systems have a naturally greater access to soil, water, and nutrient reserves, thus increasing their ability to tolerate environmental stresses. For most lawns, mowing at a height of two to three inches will provide a good quality turf.

In addition to larger and deeper root systems, higher heights of cut restrict the amount of light reaching the soil surface. Since many weed seeds require light for germination, the increased shading from a higher height of cut will actually suppress weed germination and growth thereby cutting down the need to use weed control measures.