



2008 Zoysia Lawn Care Guide

The Zoysia lawn provides the homeowner with with a beautiful, dense, cushiony turf, that is heat and drought tolerant, throughout the summer growing months. The trade-off is the straw brown color that the Zoysia takes on during the winter. Because of the winter dormant period, Zoysia is susceptible to winter weeds.

The Zoysia lawn can be established most easily by plugging. It can also be established through sod, sprigs, and most recently by seed. The latter three are either more expensive or require more effort than plugging. A Zoysiagrass lawn requires 2 to 3 years to become fully established and grows best in full sun. It will become thin under even moderate shade. **Meyer-Z52** Zoysia is forerunning choice for Zoysia in this area.

To establish Zoysia, the area to be plugged should first be sprayed with Gordon's® **Pronto** to minimize competition from other grass and weeds. Plugging should then be done with a dibble, placing the plugs in rows 12" apart on 12" centers. After plugging, fertilize the area with **Turf Trust Professional Lawn Fertilizer** and begin watering the area daily for 7 - 10 days. The **Turf Trust** will act as a starter fertilizer as well as provide a long term feed. This process will enhance the development of stolons.

For an established Zoysia lawn, the fertiilization and weed prevention programs are summarized below. The established Zoysia lawn should be fed three times throughout the summer, but no later than August 15. Lime should be applied to keep the pH in the 6.0 - 6.5 range. Zoysiagrass should be mowed at a height to 0.5" - 1.5" throughout the year. Except for newly planted plugs, Zoysia should not be watered until the onset of a color change due to drought. It should then be watered for 50 to 60 minutes per day until the green color returns. Weeds, which are minimal in established Zoysia, should be controlled with **Green Light Weed Killer with Trimec**. The main insects of Zoysia are white grubs and chinch bugs. Control general insects and chinchbugs with Gordon's® **Bug-no-more** with **Permethrin**. **Dylox** grub killer will eradicate grubs. Diseases can be controlled through the use of **Bayleton**. Zoysia that is mowed high or over fertilized may develop a thatch layer that is hazardous to the Zoysia plants. Thatch should be removed whenever it exceeds 0.5" in thickness. Removal is done with a powerrake or verticutter. An established Zoysia lawn should be powerraked annually, at the beginning of the growing season, to encourage stolon development.

SUMMARY CALENDAR

Mid March	Green Light Brand Dimension Crabgrass Preventer
Late April/Early May	Powerrake Zoysia lawn Dylox Grub Control
Late May	Turf Trust 24-2-12 Professional lawn Fertilizer (when Zoysia is Completely green) Speed Zone weed control
Beg. August	Gordon's Bug-no-more Insecticide