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Centipede Lawn Maintenance

Mowing your TifBlair Centipede Lawn

- Mow at 1.5 to 2 inches cutting height. Mow no more than 1/3 of the leaf off at one mowing. Use sharp mower blades and catch and remove clippings. Can be mowed with either reel or rotary mower.
- TifBlair has the least mowing requirements of the turfgrasses; mowing may be required on a 10-to-14-day interval.

Mow when grass is this tall: 2 to 2.5 inches

Set cutting height of mower to: 1.5 to 2 inches

Watering TifBlair Centipede Sod

Water to supplement rainfall shortages only. Avoid fixed timer irrigation settings.

Though drought tolerant, Centipede performs best when it receives approximately 1 inch of water per week. If one or more inches of rainfall occurs in a week, additional irrigation is not necessary. (Example: if 1/2 inch of rain occurs within a growing week, apply 1/2 inch by irrigation.)

Do not waste water by over watering; avoid run-off and standing water for any period of time.

Fertilizing TifBlair Centipede Sod

- Fertilize with Super-Sod's <u>Starter & Centipede Formulation 5-10-30 + Iron</u>, which can be purchased at your local Super-Sod store. Fertilize according to the table below and according to soil test recommendations.
- TifBlair may not even need fertilizing. Never apply fertilizer to a Centipede lawn without first running a soil test.
- If it does need fertilizer, apply between 1 and 2 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet annually, during the growing season. Select a fertilizer that is labeled for use on Centipedegrass lawns. Do not apply fertilizer to wet turf to avoid burning.
- Too much fertility will result in a thatchy and unhealthy lawn.
- Centipede thrives on acidic soil with a pH range of 5.0 to 6.0. Do not apply lime to Centipede without a soil test.

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Weed, Pest and Disease Control for TifBlair Centipede

- Centipede's open growth can encourage the weed population to grow. Use of a preemergent herbicide, recommended for use on Centipede lawns on the label, is strongly recommended in the spring and fall.
- Apply pre-emergent weed control products that are specifically labeled for Centipede grass. Do not apply pre-emergents 90 days prior to seeding.
- Apply weed control according to the table below. Read and follow all label directions.
- Pests can become a problem, especially if centipede is not growing healthily (too much fertilizer or water, etc.).
- For assistance with weed identification and pest control contact your nursery/garden center, landscaper, or State cooperative extension service agent.
- Thatch Removal: Periodically it may be necessary to remove accumulated thatch. This is best accomplished just before turf turns green (which is approximately late winter in the coastal plain and spring further north). Scalp or rake heavily and remove debris.

Month	Fertilizer & Weed Control (lbs/1000 sq.ft.)	Timing
FEB	0-0-7 w/ pre-emergent @ 6 lbs.	first week
APRIL	5-10-30 + Iron w/ pre-emergent @ 10 lbs.	middle of month
JULY	5-10-30 w/ Acelepryn (insecticide) @ 10 lbs.	middle of month
AUG	5-10-30 + Iron w/ pre-emergent @ 10 lbs.	middle of month
SEPT	0-0-7 w/ pre-emergent @ 6 lbs.	middle of month

^{**}Do not apply any pre-emergent until after your sod install has been completed for 12 months, due to the risk of root damage. **