

## **Piala's Lawn Care Recommendations | Newly Installed Seeded Lawn**

### WATERING NEW LAWNS

In order to keep the lawn looking its best, it is critical that it be kept moist until substantial rooting has occurred. This requires daily watering, and is best achieved with sprinklers. Initially, a sprinkler turned on at full throttle for approximately 20 – 30 minutes in each location is adequate. The idea is to keep the seed immediately below it moist (so it is wet to the touch when you place your palm on the ground). Follow these instructions if rainfall does not occur:

- Water thoroughly twice (or more) per day for the first 6 weeks. The seed needs to continuously stay moist during this period.
- Water thoroughly once per day for the following 3 weeks.
- For the remainder of the first season, water as necessary when dry. Do this less frequently, but continue the deep watering (approx. 1" of water per week)
- If a straw mat was used to cover your new lawn, it is optional to remove it after some of the lawn has been established. Each lawn should be treated on a case by case basis for straw mat removal, please contact Piala's for further instruction.
- For dormant seeded lawns (installed early November or later), these instructions should be implemented the following spring after the snow melts.

### FERTILIZING NEW LAWNS

Newly installed lawn should have starter fertilizer applied. With all lawn fertilizers, the ratio of N-P-K (Nitrogen, Phosphorous, and Potassium) is more important than the specific numbers, which can vary by brand. Phosphorous, the middle number, is very important for new lawns. Depending on when your lawn was installed, follow these instructions for fertilizing new lawns:

#### **Application 1 – Starter Fertilizer**

Starter Fertilizer (9-13-7 or similar) applied at time of lawn installation

#### **Application 2 – Apply 4 weeks after installation**

Starter Fertilizer (9-13-7 or similar)

#### **Application 3 – Apply 4-6 weeks after last Starter Fertilizer (skip if late summer seeding)**

Summer Fertilizer (26-0-4 or similar)

#### **Application 4 – November**

Fall Fertilizer/Winterizer (25-0-6 or similar)

**Be sure to wait at least 6 months before using an herbicide application on newly installed lawns.**

*If you have any questions regarding your fertilizing schedule, please contact us at any time.*

### MOWING NEW LAWNS

Mowing of new lawn should take place once lawn is over 3" in height (minimum 4 weeks old). It may be spotty in places, but mowing will promote growth, and the clippings put nitrogen back into the soil. Keeping the lawn at 3" in height will promote stronger root development and require less watering in the hot summer months. Remember to stop watering for a day to allow the ground to harden enough to drive a push mower on it without leaving ruts.