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**LAWN MAINTENANCE CALENDAR - PENINSULA AREA**  
**2009 Researched and Recommended Bermuda and Zoysia Grasses**  
**(Warm Season Grasses) Bermuda and Zoysia Lawns**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
October	<b>OVERSEED</b> Bermudagrass with annual ryegrass, if desired, at 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. Zoysiagrass does not lend itself to over-seeding.
November 15 – December 15	<b>WINTER WEED CONTROL.</b> Important to control chickweed, dandelion, henbit, buttercut, and many other annuals. Use combination of 2,4-D and Dicamba or Mecoprop. Read label closely for use on Zoysiagrass.
February 15 – March 15	<b>2ND ANNUAL WINTER WEED INSPECTION AND CONTROL,</b> if necessary. 2, 4-D and Dicamba herbicide will control most broad leaf weeds.
March 1 – mid-March	<b>PRE-EMERGENT CRABGRASS CONTROL.</b> Use Pendimethalin, Benefin (Balan), Dithiopyr (Dimension), or DCPA (Dacthal). Products have advantages and disadvantages. Read label carefully. Avoid Siduron (Tupersan, Trey). Make the first application when forsythia is in the first week of bloom. The second application is product dependent; read and follow the label carefully.
April	<b>FERTILIZE.</b> Obtain a soil test every 3 or 4 years and use the recommendations in the most recent report to determine the N-P-K rates for your lawn (e.g., 25-3-7 or 12-4-8).  Apply a <u>complete fertilizer</u> in sufficient amount to provide 1 lb. of actual N (nitrogen) per 1000 sq. ft.  Example: 15 lbs. of 10-10-10 or 18 lbs. of 8-8-8 per 1,000 sq. ft. or the equivalent of another analysis. See other programs in Extension Publication 452-238 (Soil Test Notes) or 430-011 (Lawn Fertilization in Virginia) or the Peninsula Lawn Care Handbook.

**2009 Recommended Bermudagrass Varieties**

(Varieties with the notation # are only recommended in Southeastern Virginia)

**Recommended vegetatively propagated bermudagrass varieties:** Aussie Green<sup>#</sup>, Celebration<sup>#</sup>, GN-1<sup>#</sup>, Midfield<sup>#</sup>, Midiron<sup>#</sup>, Midlawn<sup>#</sup>, MS-Choice<sup>#</sup>, Patriot<sup>#</sup>, Premier<sup>#</sup>, Quickstand<sup>#</sup>, Shanghai<sup>#</sup>, Tifton 10<sup>#</sup>, Tifgreen<sup>#</sup>, TifSport<sup>#</sup>, Tifway<sup>#</sup>, Tifway II<sup>#</sup>, Tufcote<sup>#</sup>, and Vamont.

**Recommended seeded bermudagrass varieties:** Blackjack<sup>#</sup>, Contessa<sup>#</sup>, Transcontinental<sup>#</sup>, Princess-77<sup>#</sup>, Pyramid 2<sup>#</sup>, Riviera<sup>#</sup>, Savannah<sup>#</sup>, Sovereign<sup>#</sup>, Southern Star<sup>#1</sup>, Sundevil II<sup>#</sup>, Veracruz<sup>#</sup> and Yukon.

**2009 Recommended Zoysiagrass Varieties**

Meyer (vegetatively propagated variety) ; Zenith, Compadre (seeded variety)

**2009 Recommended Perennial Ryegrass** – (not for use in sod production) Use certified seed.

Affirmed, Applaud, Apple GL, Brightstar SLT, Brightstar II, Buena Vista, Calypso 3, Catalina II, Divine, Exacta, Gator 3, Grand Slam<sup>(3)</sup>, Inspire, Jet, Line Drive GLS, Manhattan 4, Paragon GLR, and Stellar.

- May **OVERSEEDING.** If needed, overseed a common Bermudagrass lawn with 1-2 lbs. of a recommended variety of Bermuda grass. Use hulled seed. (deadline - July 1). Soil preparation via dethatching or raking is necessary for seed establishment.
- FERTILIZE.** Apply equivalent of 1 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. Omit on Zoysiagrass.
- EXAMPLES: 10 lbs. of 10-10-10 or 12 lbs. of 8-8-8 per 1000 sq. ft. Table 1 in publication 430-011 has other analyses listed.
- WATERING.** Begin deep watering every 7-10 days, if necessary. Bermuda and Zoysia are drought tolerant species. Water when signs of stress are shown.
- CUTTING HEIGHT.** Approximately 1 inch throughout season.
- THATCH.** May 20 – June 15. (if needed) Very seldom a problem. Old grass clippings are not a sign of thatch.
- June **FERTILIZE.** Apply equivalent of 1 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft.
- July **FERTILIZE.** Apply equivalent of 1 lb. of actual nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. Omit on Zoysiagrass.
- July – August **WEED CONTROL.** Apply a combination of 2,4-D and Dicamba or Mecoprop by August 1 herbicide to control annual summer broad leaf weeds, if needed.
- WATERING.** Continue to deep water every 7-10 days, if weather necessitates. Avoid night watering – turf should dry off before night.
- DISEASE AND INSECT ALERT.** Diseases and insects are few with these species of grasses, but because of temperature and humidity, a disease could cause problems. Contact the Extension Office for problems in turf.
- August 5-15 **POA ANNA CONTROL (Annual Bluegrass).** This weed can cause problems in the lawn. It germinates in early fall and grows in the rosette form through the winter. It forms a seed head and grows by March. Use Balan in the fall before August 15 to develop a weed barrier to reduce the germination of Poa Anna.

**Note: All the above are based on the assumptions that soil test report recommendations are being followed and a predominately quick-release nitrogen fertilizer is being used.**

#### Web Resources

Virginia Cooperative Extension-York County Local website: [www.yorkcounty.gov/vce](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce)  
 Virginia Cooperative Extension website: [www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)  
 Peninsula Lawn Care Handbook: [www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/progareas/hort/hortpubs.htm](http://www.yorkcounty.gov/vce/progareas/hort/hortpubs.htm)

**Publication No.            426-609 Selecting Landscape Plants – Ground Covers**  
**430-009 Lawn Establishment In Virginia**  
**427-045 Lawn Weed Control**  
**430-011 Lawn Fertilization in Virginia**  
**425-125 Soil Test Kit (Extension Office)**