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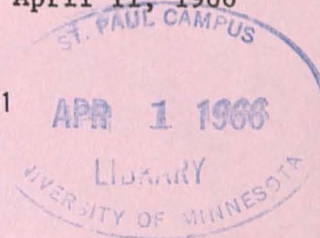
Yard 'n' Garden



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STARTING YOUR LAWN

The new lawn may be started during the spring season either by seeding or sodding. If you choose to seed your lawn, sow the seed between April 15 and May 10. Late seeding will often result in excessive weed competition.

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A good lawn depends on the selection of the proper variety of grass, a good supply of nutrients and plenty of water.

The Kentucky bluegrasses are best for the sunny lawns and heavier soils. If the lawn is to be used for play, the addition of the creeping red fescue grasses will help improve the wearability. Seed mixtures for sunny lawns should contain from 60 to 80 percent Kentucky bluegrass. The other percentages are often made up of the fescue grasses. The Park variety of bluegrass will germinate quickly and give quick turf cover. Where sod has been laid, it is often advisable to do some overseeding with creeping red fescue in order to give wearing quality.

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A shady lawn or one with sandy soil should be seeded with 60 to 70 percent of the creeping red fescue and only 30 to 40 percent of the Kentucky bluegrasses.

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Whether seeding or sodding, be sure you have a good soil base. For a good soil base, apply 30 to 40 pounds of a complete fertilizer such as a 12-12-12 per 1,000 square feet of lawn. Till this into the soil along with a good supply of organic matter to a depth of 6 inches. After seeding, rake the soil lightly to cover the seed and to make a good contact between seed and soil. To assure prompt germination, water regularly. Keep the surface of the soil moist but not wet.

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After sodding the lawn, be sure seams are covered or firmly pressed together to prevent air from getting under the sod layer and causing drying out.

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Keep in mind that new reseeded grass is very tender. The new lawn should be used sparingly. Mowing should begin when the grass attains a height of 3 inches.

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