

# Guide to Turfgrass Recommendations

**Lime and fertilizer recommendations** are given just below the sample information and look like the example below.

## *Example Results*

RECOMMENDATIONS			
<b>Lime to Apply</b>			
No soil pH adjustment is recommended.			
<b>Fertilizer to Apply</b>			
Wisconsin Statute 94.643 prohibits application of lawn fertilizer containing phosphorus to established turf when soil tests indicate no phosphorus is needed. All vendors of lawn fertilizer stock phosphorus-free fertilizer.			
Based on the results of your soil analysis, we recommend the following fertilizer program.			
Using the following grid, apply the recommended fertilizers using the spreader setting shown on the fertilizer bag. Use only fertilizers manufactured specifically for application on turfgrass. Re-test soil every 2 to 3 years.			
Type of turf fertilizer	May 15-31	July 1-15	September 1-15
General high N	X	X	X
Starter high P			
Winterizer high K			
Apply general fertilizer using the spreader settings on the bag.			
Apply general grade fertilizer between October 1st and 15th if clippings are bagged.			

**Lime rates** are given in pounds of “finely ground lime” per thousand square feet. This assumes a Lime product with a Neutralizing Index of 90-99. If you choose a lower grade lime, more product will be required as the Neutralizing Index will be proportionally less.

**Lime applications** can be made at any time as it may take 24 months or longer for it to fully react with soil acidity. If you plan on tilling prior to lawn establishment, application of lime prior to tilling will be beneficial as the lime can react with soil to the depth of tillage.

**Fertilizer applications** are given in the table by **type** and by application **timing**.

Three main nutrients found in turf fertilizers are Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K). Fertilizer bags will have the percent of **actual nutrient** in the bag listed in order as “N – P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – K<sub>2</sub>O”

Turf fertilizer **types** and the amount of nutrient they *generally contain* are in the table below:

	<b>%N</b>	<b>%P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub></b>	<b>%K<sub>2</sub>O</b>
General	20 to 30	0	less than 5
Starter fertilizer	10 to 30	20 to 30	any
Late season/winterizer	20 to 30	0	10 to 30

It is suggested to use nitrogen (N) fertilizer that at least ¼ of the total N is slowly available. Generally, turf fertilizer bag labels will show the total N and percent of the total N that is slowly available.

If potassium is “Very Low” or “Low” try to find a fertilizer with K<sub>2</sub>O.

To apply the **right amount** of fertilizer, it is **critical** that your **spreader** is set to the **proper setting**.  
 If your spreader is not listed below, look for a toll free number on the fertilizer bag to call for the proper setting.

*These settings are meant to apply approximately 1 lb of N per thousand square feet of a 25 to 30% N fertilizer.*

## Spreader Settings



Broadcast Spreader		Drop Spreader	
Agri-Fab	4.0	Agri-Fab	6.0
Ames	4.0	Ames	2.5
Ames Deluxe 2in 1	3.0	Ames Deluxe 2in 1	1.5
Craftsman	4.0	Craftsman	5.5
Earthway	11.5	Earthway	9.5
Plant Mate	8.0	Plant Mate	1.7
Precision GreenLine	3.75	Precision GreenLine	1.5
Precision Red Devil (old dial 0 to 12)	6.5	Precision Red Devil (old dial 0 to 14)	7.0
Precision Red Devil (new dial 0 to 10)	3.75	Precision Red Devil (new dial 0 to 5)	1.5
Precision Pro	3.75	Precision Pro	1.5
Scotts Speedy Green	5.75	Scotts Accu Green	6.5
Scotts Easy Green	26.0	Scotts Even Green	7.5
Taylor	8.0	Taylor	1.7



### TIPS:

If you have elected to purchase a weed and feed fertilizer, the grass must be wet when applied. The best time is early morning when there is heavy dew on the grass.

If the fertilizer does not contain weed killer, apply when the grass is dry.

Apply the fertilizer in a pattern that assures some overlap between adjacent passes with the spreader.