# How to Renovate an Existing Lawn



#### Seed-to-Soil Contact

- There's no such thing as "overseeding" leading to good results.
   Just throwing seed atop the ground won't yield satisfactory results!
- Nixa Hardware recommends renting a seeder-slicer to work up soil as you seed. This aerates compacted soil and provide the seed a place to safely germinate, underneath the dirt.

# We Rent Seeder-Splicers! Ideal Planting Timing

- For best results, plant seed between September 1 October
- If spring planting is required, do so between February 1 April 20
- Overseeding over the top can only be accomplished Jan. Mar. during freezing weather
- (Summer planting is not recommended, but if required, loose straw atop the ground will help hold moisture)

#### Fertilize or Bust

"Fertilize Your New Lawn or Don't Bother To Plant the Seed."

- Use 1 bag of Magnum<sup>®</sup> Plus Fertilizer per 6,500 sq. ft.
- · Fertilize at the same time as seeding.
- Fertilize in spring and fall. Use 1/2 spreader rate in summer.

Fertilizer Efficiency Increases with Proper Soil pH Levels!				
Soil Acidity	рН	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potash
Extreme	4.5	30%	23%	33%
Very Strong	5.0	53%	34%	52%
Strong	5.5	77%	48%	77%
Medium	6.0	89%	52%	100%
Neutral	7.0	100%	100%	100%

### Lime to Ideal PH

- Use pelleted lime to correct the soil's PH.
- Use 50 lbs of pelleted Lime per 1,000 sq. ft.
- Use a soil test to obtain a PH of 7 (Neutral).



#### **Mulch for Moisture**

- If seeded at the proper time mulching may not be necessary.
- Mulch with 1" only of straw to hold moisture.
- Use one bale of straw per 1,00 sq. ft.

#### When to Water

- Water new seed daily (keep soil moist at all times).
- Water mature turf deeply with 1-1/2" to 2", only once a week.
- To promote deeper roots, avoid frequent light watering of established lawns.

# **Mow to Maintain**

- Always use sharp blades for less stress on grass.
- Mow after 4" of growth, but before grass begins to fall over.
- Never cut off more than 1/3 of plant at any one time.

# **Controlling Weeds**

- When planting in spring, a pre-emergent herbicide (Tupersan) for grassy annual weeds (crabgrass, foxtail) is highly recommended.
- Once established, annual grassy weeds are harder, but possible, to control with post-emergent herbicides (MSMA).
- Perennial broad leaf weeds (dandelions, henbit) are easy to control with post-emergent selective herbicides (2-4D, Trimec).
- Perennial grassy weeds (Bermudagrass, Johnsongrass) can be controlled with a non-selective herbicide (Glyphosate, Ammonium Sulfate, Sticker). Then re-seed in the fall.

#### **Brown Patch Disease**

- Control thatch.
- Mow with a sharp blade.
- Avoid excess Nitrogen Fertilizer during disease outbreaks.
- Water thoroughly, but less frequently and in the early morning.
- Use Fungicide labeled for controlling brown patch.