



**Pawnee Buttes Seed Inc.**

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## **Turf Seeding Guide**

### **Seeding a New Lawn**

- Add any fertilizer or soil amendments as recommended by county agent or per soil test.
- Prepare the seedbed by tilling the area and raking smooth any large dirt clods or low areas.
- Distribute seed evenly over prepared surface with a broadcast spreader. Do not use a drop spreader. Set spreader to a light setting and seed one direction and then make another pass going the opposite direction.
- Rake lightly to cover seed with approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of soil.
- Firm the seedbed with a sod roller or something heavy in order to achieve good seed to soil contact.
- Mulch with clean straw, compost, or sphagnum peat if desired to keep seed moist and aid germination. In windy areas straw may not be feasible.
- Water with a fine-mist sprinkler several times daily until grass is established. Water enough so the soil does not become dry below 1 inch.
- When the seedlings reaches a height of 4", mow to 2.5"-3" with a sharp mower, when the grass is dry.
- After first mowing, reduce watering to an as-needed basis.
- Control weeds by mowing until after grass is more mature, 2-3 months. A weed and feed or other herbicide can be used as recommended by county agent.

### **Over Seeding an Existing Lawn**

- Mow existing lawn to a height of about 1 inch.
- Aerify the turf by slicing, coring, spiking, or de-thatching equipment and remove debris.
- Add any fertilizer or soil amendments as recommended by county agent or per soil test.
- Rake or rough the surface, particularly on bare spots, to enhance seed to soil contact.
- Spread the seed with a broadcast spreader. Small areas can be seeded by hand.
- Drag or rake the grass to be certain the seed comes in contact with the soil. Apply a light mulch of peat or straw.
- Water with a sprinkler 2-3 times per day until grass is established.