



Successful Establishment and Maintenance Guidelines

My Holiday Lawn™ is a great choice anywhere you want to reduce mowing time and expenses

- Turf Production
- Athletic Fields
- Golf Course Roughs
- Residential
- Construction

“The really good news is that in addition to the very compact canopy, My Holiday Lawn™ is beautiful turf...”

Dr. Doug Brede

These guidelines are general suggestions to help you successfully grow a 100% pure stand of My Holiday Lawn. Recommendations for your specific growing conditions should be obtained from a qualified agronomic advisor.



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Potential annual maintenance cost savings:

An average homeowner who spends \$1300 per year on lawn maintenance service would see their cost reduced to \$300 per year – or a 77% savings – when they switched to monthly only mowing according to calculations on www.homewyse.com.



And, if you are doing your own mowing, having a few extra weekends off from mowing duties during summer-vacation time...priceless!

Site preparation: To get the full advantage of My Holiday Lawn, the important thing is to get a 100% pure stand. Other grasses and weeds tend to stand out from the low-growing My Holiday Lawn and will need mowing when My Holiday Lawn grasses don't. Proper pre-plant site and soil preparation are important with any successful turfgrass establishment project but they are doubly important with My Holiday Lawn.

When seeding, one plant can outcompete another by growing faster or taller and shading out its neighbor. Since My Holiday Lawn is purposely bred to be less vertically aggressive, it is

important to control weeds or grasses that might remain in the soil bed at the establishment site.

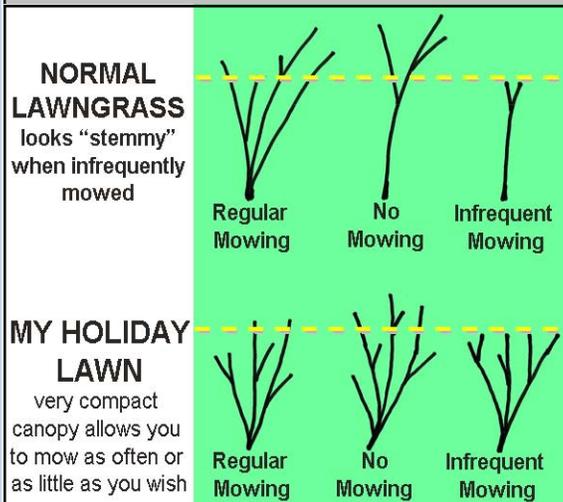
Therefore, eliminate any existing perennial grassy weeds and turf plants before you seed. This means (continued)

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spraying with glyphosate, waiting for it to work, watering the area and re-treating any volunteers that come up until the soil is free of any other types.



Green stripes show existing grass not fully killed with glyphosate

It is possible to control a few stragglers after planting using a rope-wick herbicide applicator which will be discussed later. But, it is more desirable to have them completely controlled before seeding My Holiday Lawn.

Broadleaf weeds are of less concern, since they can be controlled after establishment with elective herbicides such as 2,4-D.

Jacklin Seed and its affiliates are not responsible for any establishment problems resulting from inadequate control of Pre-existing vegetation.

Seeding or sodding? For most homeowners, turfgrass sod is the best way to go for My Holiday Lawn because it helps block previously grown grasses or weeds from resurfacing. Also, a turfgrass sod producer would be more able to grow a clean, weed-free sod that a homeowner could lay over top of a clean, cultivated seedbed, thereby sealing off any pre-existing plants or seeds in the soil bed that might try to come through.

Controlling grassy weeds after establishment: The Rope Wick Wand is a handy homeowner tool for eradicating taller unwanted plants. It consists of a PVC tube filled with 1/3rd strength Roundup. A rope wick at the bottom wipes herbicide onto unwanted taller-growing plants. The spots are rapidly healed by surrounding My Holiday Lawn leaving only a temporary blemish.



Rope Wick Wand being used to remove off-type plants

Weed control: As mentioned above, control of grassy weeds and other volunteers is important for the success of My Holiday Lawn. We recommend glyphosate (such as Roundup®) be applied to the existing site prior to establishment. Allow 7-14 days for burn down. Then, examine the stand for skips and late emerging weeds. If necessary, make a 2nd application.

On the day of planting, an application of Syngenta's Tenacity herbicide is recommended to be applied at label rate. This herbicide is also available in granular form as a starter fertilizer combination. When used correctly, it prevents germination of many undesirable grasses.

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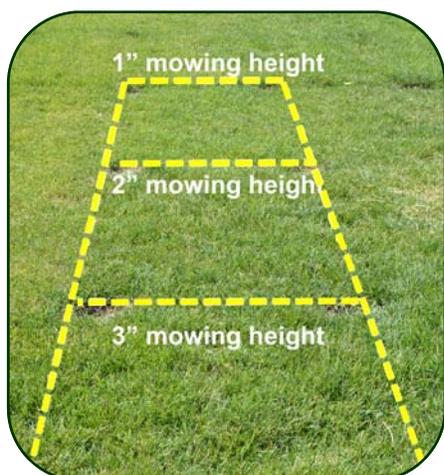
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Trees and shade: Kentucky bluegrass as a species is not highly shade tolerant. My Holiday Lawn, being a mixture of specially bred bluegrasses, is no exception. It grows best in full sun and will tolerate speckled shade. It will not persist in areas with dense shade or limited exposure to sunlight. If your lawn area contains shaded areas, you may need to either thin the trees using selective pruning, or plant another grass under the drip line. An excellent choice for such shaded areas is Jacklin's Scottish Links™ blend of fine fescues. This blend is inherently low growing and tolerates moderate-to-heavy shade. Do not blend seed of My Holiday Lawn with Scottish Links seed; plant 100% My Holiday Lawn in the sun and 100% Scottish Links under the trees.

Not recommended to mix with other grasses: Blending seed of My Holiday Lawn with other turfgrasses is not recommended. Grasses like tall fescue or perennial ryegrass will dominate My Holiday Lawn due to their fast vertical growth. As a result the homeowner would need to mow as often as if their lawn was 100% tall fescue. We conducted a field plot study at our research farm to determine whether fine fescue could be mixed with My Holiday Lawn, since fine fescue is a shorter growing grass than its tall cousin. Results found that even at small percentages, fine fescue substantially dragged down the turf quality of My Holiday Lawn while it generated more leaf growth and needed more frequent mowing.

Seeding rate: A field study was established in Idaho in 2013 to determine if there was a difference in My Holiday Lawn performance based on seeding rate. Results showed little to no difference in establishment based on seeding rates of 1, 2, or 3 pounds/1,000 ft² (5-15 g/m²).



My Holiday Lawn Mowing Height Study— 4 weeks after mowing.

Mowing height: In a replicated field trial, 3 mowing heights of 1, 2 or 3 inch (25-76 mm) were imposed upon a set of My Holiday Lawn plots. After 2 years of observation, the study found that 2 to 3 inches provided optimal performance. The 1 inch (25 mm) mowing height rated 1-2 points lower in visual quality due to a more stemmy appearance. Evidently, close mowing and infrequent mowing are not entirely compatible.

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These plots were mowed at the same time and after one month shows (top) My Holiday Lawn has significantly reduced growth compared to (bottom) other grass

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Note that in a separate trial where My Holiday Lawn was tested under conventional weekly fairway-height mowing, performance was excellent – similar to top performing Jacklin standards.

Mowing frequency: My Holiday Lawn is optimized for approximately once-a-month mowing. In practice, you will want to select your mowing date based on weather, fertilization, and other local factors – in other words, “when it needs it.”

You may find that in late summer and fall My Holiday Lawn can go longer than a month between mowings. Conversely, in June during flowering season it may need to be mowed twice per month to keep the seedheads under control.



There is a visible difference between other grasses and My Holiday Lawn, use sod to get a 100% pure stand and enjoy the full benefits of reduced mowing with elite turf quality

Some people have asked what happens if you stretch the interval between mowings even further. The main negative would be that it wouldn't keep that freshly mown look. It would start to get more of a rolling look to the top of the canopy and weed control would become an issue as it competed with taller growing weeds. But compared to other options on the market, it would be an excellent choice for such a site.

Collecting clippings: From an environmental standpoint, it's always best to recycle clippings back into the turf rather than haul them to the dump. Same goes for My Holiday Lawn except you will have less to remove since it does not produce heavy top-growth. However, if desired, clippings can also be removed.

Disease and insect control: The varieties in My Holiday Lawn are similar to other Kentucky bluegrasses in regards to their pest performance. If you have had success with bluegrass in the past, you will find My Holiday Lawn to be equal or better.



My Holiday Lawn on June 12 mowed two weeks earlier.

The only diseases you will likely see will be some rust and mildew in the establishment year which generally results from wet overcast weather. The best cultural control of these seedling-year diseases is an application of ammonium sulfate (21-0-0). The nitrogen helps kick-start the grass, growing it out of these diseases, while the sulfate offers fungicidal properties.

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Fertilization: First year fertilization is fairly standard. After seeding, the stand should be pushed with NPK to fill in. Then as soon as the stand is full, back off to lower levels. We have done experiments to answer the question of maintenance fertilization.



After the first year, slow release, coated fertilizer seems to be best for slow feeding. If you dump quickly available fertilizer on My Holiday Lawn, you will be mowing it next week. It performs best when fertilized with 1 to 3 lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 ft² per year (5-15 g nitrogen per meter square), split into 1 or more applications.

If you apply high amounts of fertilizer, such as 6 lbs. N (30 g/m²) per year, you can plan on mowing twice as often.

Irrigation: Whether seeding or sodding, My Holiday Lawn benefits from daily irrigation during the first few weeks of establishment. Ideally, a light water application should be made 3-4 times per day to keep the surface moist but not puddled. After about a month, the stand will be ready to take normal watering practices. Once it matures, My Holiday Lawn should use about the same amount of water as a traditional bluegrass – maybe even less. Research has shown that bluegrass is actually far more water thrifty than people think.



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For more information, contact your
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