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Fertilizing

Many homeowners choose to feed their lawns on a quarterly cycle, which makes late May/early June a perfect time to add a nitrogen-rich fertilizer and water it into your grass. We can advise you on the right balance of nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (NPK) fertilizer that works best for your grass type. Here's the theory behind using NPK on your lawn.

NPK (K is the symbol for potassium) reflects the balance of the best chemical nutrients for most lawns. In the spring, many people use a nitrogen-rich fertilizer for greening up their lawns. Nitrogen stimulates leaf production. You might prefer to shift the balance toward the phosphorus side in the fall, since that nutrient stimulates root growth through winter months. Potassium promotes overall lawn health and resistance to disease. Here are the most common fertilizing errors and their consequences:

1. Don't Overdo Spring Fertilizer

A spring fertilizer that's especially high in nitrogen will likely do several things. The first is accelerating your lawn's growth. Sounds great, but the downside is all the early top growth typically comes at the expense of your lawn's roots, and during wet spring weather, an over-fertilized lawn can be especially vulnerable to lawn fungus. While some fertilizer is a great start to your season's lawn maintenance, in the spring consider a fertilizer with lower nitrogen content than you'd use at other times of the year, and be sure not to over-apply it.

2. Watch Out For Weed and Feed Fertilizers

Spring is a fresh start, and it can seem like a great time to tackle all your lawn maintenance tasks: fill in thin areas, kill weeds, and get your lawn growing vigorously again. Unfortunately, as wonderful as doing it all at once sounds, it's rarely that easy. If you're spreading any new seed, whether you're putting in an entirely new law, or just over seeding damaged patches, do not apply a weed and feed fertilizer. The herbicide will kill young grass along with the weeds. For now, a fertilizer without any herbicide is the way to go.

Spring fertilizer done right is an important part of a lawn maintenance program. Avoid these pitfalls, and your yard will be off to a great start.

Here are the most common fertilizing errors and their consequences:

1. Not enough fertilizer
Inadequate fertilizer application will not improve color or growth, nor will it bring out the full potential of the plant.

2. Too much fertilizer
Fertilizer applied at excess rates is detrimental to plants, and can damage or kill the roots. Above the ground, excess fertilizer shows up as leaf scorch and even branch dieback.

3. Unevenly applied fertilizer
Fertilizer should be applied to cover as much of the root-growing zone under the plant canopy as possible. If it is misapplied to only a portion of the root zone, the fertilized area could respond differently from the unfertilized areas of the tree or shrub bed.

Care for every season

1. Over wintering Insect Control and Spring Dormant Oil
A special application of horticultural oil helps control certain difficult insects in their over wintering stage, before damage occurs.

2. Spring Feeding
Injecting or drenching root zones with nutrients enhances vigor, growth, color and flowering potential.

3. Early Growth Protection
Minimizes early season damage caused by insects, mites, and diseases. Nutrients are applied as needed.

4. Mid-Season Foliage Protection
Protects against damaging pests, including aphids, lace bugs, mites, and scale.

5. Late Season Foliage Protection
Provides additional protection against late-occurring insects and mites, further improving health and vigor.

6. Root Zone Fertilization
Injecting or drenching root zones with nutrients encourages growth and helps plant recover from summer and prepare for winter.

7. Over wintering Insect Control and Fall Dormant Oil
A special application of horticultural oil helps control certain difficult insects in their overwintering stage, before damage occurs.