

Success Tip...

Evaluating the Lawn in September

September means turf month - and that means you need to be evaluating your lawn, right now! So, where do you start when evaluating your lawn in August?

First, take a look and see how much desirable grass remains.

If the turf is brown, look closely to see if the crowns are still green and viable. If so, they will fill back in this fall with the usual fall fertilization.

If there are voids in Bluegrass lawns, 4-6 inches in diameter, they'll fill in on their own. But if those 4-6 inch voids are in turf type fescues or perennial ryes, spot seeding will be needed to fill in the voids.

If you find perennial grassy weeds like zoysia, nimblewill growing in the turf, or even tall fescue clumps in a bluegrass lawn, treat those now with Roundup, and then reseed those areas in September.

If your lawn has 50% or more broadleaf weeds, you should consider total renovation, which means everything is killed with Roundup (2 applications 10 days apart may be needed), and then reseed the area in early September.

If the lawn is 70% turf grass and 30% weeds (or less), a good fall feeding followed by a late fall or early spring weed control will work quite nicely. Even with this ratio of turf to weeds, plan to over seed the lawn to help thicken it up.

Evaluate your lawn now, so you can do whatever is needed to be ready for September.

Remember, September is turf month, which means time to core aerate the lawn, over seed the lawn to thicken it up or to reseed the lawn if you're renovating, and time for the first fall feeding. So make sure you've got your turf plans in place.

