

FBMG Help Desk
Question of the Week

My grass needs help and I don't know what to do. Help!

Lets take a look...



**YARD
OF THE
MONTH**



Healthy Soil is the first step to Success

Healthy soil contributes to healthy turf

A soil Analysis Report will show the current levels of nutrients and provide fertilizer recommendations of N-P-K.

*Applying the proper nutrients save time and money.
Applying the correct amount help save the environment.*

Healthy turf is better able to thrive, fend off disease and resist weed invasion.

Follow these simple directions.

- 1. Go to soiltesting.tamu.edu*
- 2. Print the Urban Soil Submittal Form (1 form per sample)*
- 3. Fill it out and follow the instructions on page 2 of the form*
- 4. You can also prepay the fee online using the same web page*



A Few Simple Ideas

Check the calendar for your turf type.

ALWAYS

Read the label!

Follow the manufactures instructions!



- aerate
- dethatch
- top dress
- soil test
- check irrigation system



reduce stress, wait until after last freeze

Make a Plan!

Remove the Guess Work



St. Augustinegrass Home Lawn Maintenance Calendar

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The Texas A&M University System



EHT-141
6/20

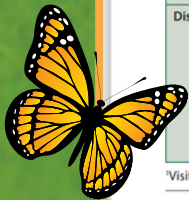
This calendar serves as a general guide and practices may vary depending on environmental conditions

Warm-season growth calendar

	Spring			Summer				Fall					
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Establishment	The best time to establish warm-season grass is during active growth periods.												
Mowing	Mow, if necessary, to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering.		Mow at 2 to 4" weekly, or as frequently as necessary to prevent scalping. Never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf tissue at one time.							Mow, if necessary, to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering.			
Fertilization			Make the first fertilizer application when the lawn is actively growing and has been mowed at least two times.		Apply 0.5 to 1 lb. of nitrogen/1000 ft ² 1 to 4 times during the growing season with a combination of quick- and slow-release fertilizer. Do not exceed 4 lbs N/1000 ft ² per year. Do not apply fertilizer to a stressed grass. Make the last application of nitrogen 4 to 6 weeks before the first historic frost. Apply other nutrients based on soil test results.						Depending on the part of the state, fertilizer may be continued to be applied. Make the last application of nitrogen 4 to 6 weeks before the first historic frost.		
Aerification				Aerate to relieve soil compaction, especially in new lawns with limited organic matter or in lawns that are moderately or heavily used. Aeration is best performed when there is adequate soil moisture.									
Thatch removal				Remove problematic thatch using hollow-tine aerification, a vertical mower, or a power rake. Thatch at 0.5 to 1" depth can begin to impede water infiltration and harbor disease and insects.									
Weed Control	Apply pre-emergence herbicides when soil temperatures reach approximately 55°F for 4 to 5 consecutive days for the prevention of summer annual weeds (i.e., crabgrass, goosegrass).						Apply post-emergence herbicides as needed for summer annual and perennial weeds. ¹			Apply pre-emergence herbicides when soil temperatures reach approximately 70°F for 4 to 5 consecutive days for the prevention of select winter annual weeds (i.e., annual bluegrass, henbit, rescuegrass).		Apply post-emergence herbicides as needed for the control of winter annual and perennial weeds.	
Irrigation	Turn off irrigation during winter months when turfgrass is not actively growing.		Complete the "Water-Wise Checklist" before turning irrigation on for the spring and summer.		Irrigate only when necessary to prevent wilting or to replace at least 60% of evapotranspiration. Do not irrigate during rainy periods or early spring and late fall when natural rainfall is more likely to meet the lawn's needs.						Turn off irrigation during winter months when turfgrass is not actively growing.		
Insect Control							Apply preventative white grub products, if necessary.		Apply curative or rescue insecticide for white grubs, if necessary. Scout for fall armyworms.				
				Scout for chinch bugs and apply insecticide, if necessary.									
Disease Control				Scout for take-all root rot and gray leaf spot.						Apply preventative fungicide products for large patch disease (<i>Rhizoctonia solani</i>) in areas with a history of disease development when soil temperatures are between 50–70°F.			

¹Visit aggieturf.tamu.edu for more information on weed identification and control in turfgrass lawns.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.



Form a Strategy!

Remove the Guess Work



Bermudagrass Home Lawn Management Calendar

Warm-season growth calendar

	Shoot growth												
	Winter			Spring			Summer			Fall			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Mowing	Mow if necessary to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering (p. 6)		Mow at 1-2" height weekly, or as frequently as required to prevent scalping. Observe the 1/3 rd rule by never removing any more than 1/3 rd of the leaf tissue at any one time (p. 3)									Mow if necessary to prevent winter annual weeds from flowering (p. 6)	
Irrigation	Turn off irrigation during winter months when temperatures are <u>cool</u> and the lawn is not actively growing (dormant) (p. 4)		Conduct an irrigation audit before turning on irrigation during the spring and summer (p. 4)			Irrigate only when necessary to prevent the onset of drought stress or to replace at least 60% of ET. Turn off the system during rainy periods or during early spring and late fall where ET rates are lower and natural rainfall is more likely to meet the lawn's needs. (p. 4)						Turn off irrigation during winter when temperatures are <u>cool</u> and the lawn is not actively growing (dormant) (p. 4)	
Fertilization				Do not make 1st fertilizer application until the lawn is actively growing and has been mowed 2 to 3 times (p. 6)			Apply 0.5 to 1 lb of N/1,000 ft ² for a total of 1 to 4 applications during the growing season. Space fertilizer applications 4 to 8 weeks apart using a combination of quick and slow-release nitrogen (N). Apply other nutrients based on soil test results. Do not apply fertilizer during to drought stressed grass. (p. 5)						
Weed Control		Apply pre-emergence herbicides for crabgrass, goosegrass , and other summer annual weeds. Apply post-emergence herbicides for cool-season perennial weeds or winter annual weeds. Use caution during spring green-up as turfgrass injury may occur. (p. 6)			Apply post-emergence herbicides for summer annual weeds such as crabgrass, purslane, spurge, etc. or warm-season perennial weeds such as Virginia buttonweed before the onset of summer drought stress (p. 8)			Apply pre-emergence herbicides for annual bluegrass, chickweed, henbit, and other winter annual weeds. (p. 9)		Apply post-emergence herbicides for winter annuals such as annual bluegrass, chickweed, henbit, etc. or for cool-season perennial weeds. (p. 9)			
Insect Control				Scout for fire ants and apply insecticides if necessary using a combination of broadcasts, baits, and individual mound treatments. (p. 10)									
						Apply preventative grub products if necessary (p. 10)		Apply curative control for white grubs if necessary. Scout for fall armyworms. (p. 10)					
Disease Control				Scout for bermudagrass decline (aka, take-all root rot)									
				Scout for spring dead spot. It is not appropriate to apply fungicides for this disease at this time (fall applications are ideal) (p. 10)					Scout for large patch and apply fungicides before patches develop. Apply fungicides in areas with a history of spring dead spot. (p. 10)				
Aeration				Aerate if possible to relieve soil compaction, especially in newer lawns with limited organic matter accumulation or in lawns that receive moderate to heavy use. Aeration is best performed when there is adequate soil moisture so that the aeration tines remove a soil core effectively.									

This calendar is intended only as a guide and practices herein may vary based on site and region. Visit <http://AggieTurf.tamu.edu> for more information on turfgrass management practices, weed identification, and pest control.



Kick Back

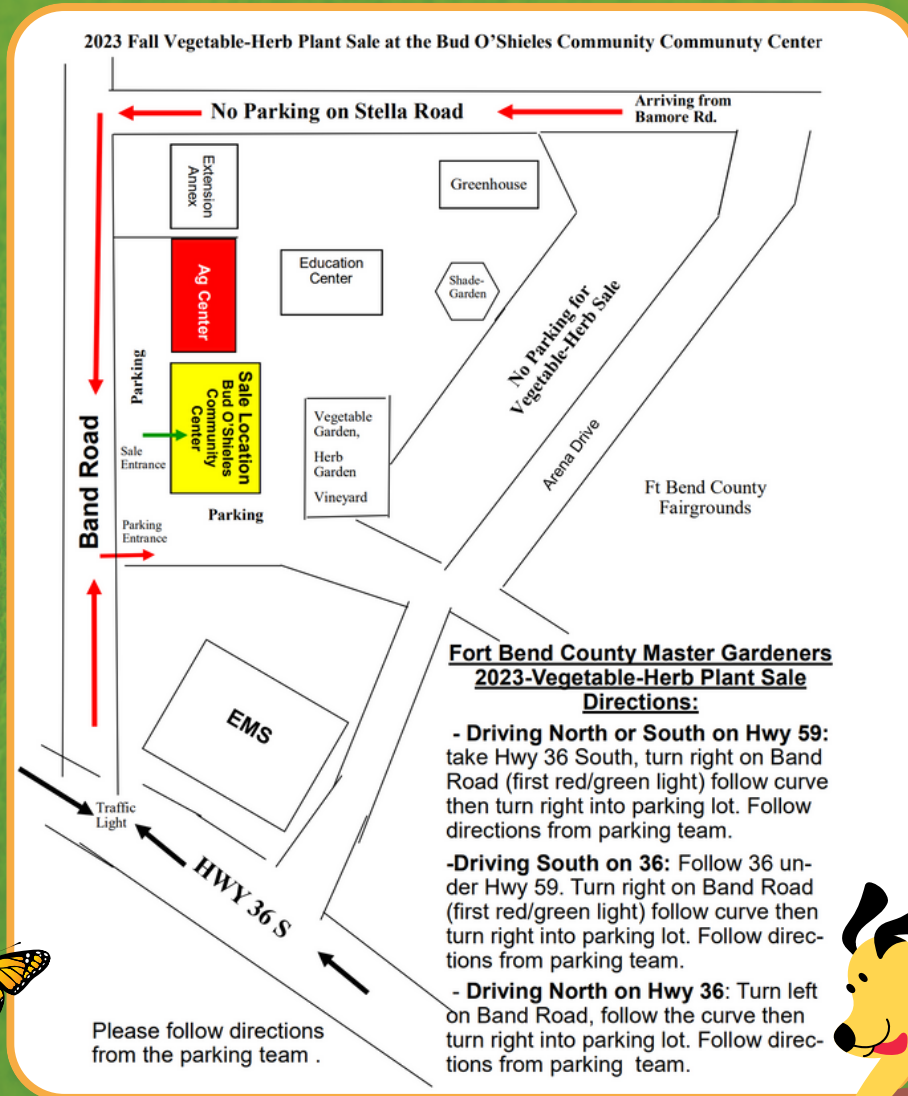
*And Enjoy
the fruits of your
labor!*



Or Go Shopping!

Ft. Bend Master Gardener Spring Vegetable & Herb Plant Sale

**Saturday March 9, 2024 from 9-12 or
until the plants are gone.**



Located at the Bud O'
Shieles Community Center

*1330 Band Road
Rosenberg, Texas 77471*

There will be signs on the
main road.

There will be Master
Gardener Volunteers in the
Parking Lot after 6:30am.

**See the Map at the left
along with driving
directions.**

**Check our website for
additional information..**

<https://fbmg.org/files/2023/09/2023Veg-HerbSaleLocation-parkingMap-Good9-27-23.pdf>



***Do you have questions
about your home
landscape and plants?***

***Contact the Fort Bend
Master Gardener Help Desk***

***Email:
FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu***

***Phone:
281-341-7068***

***The Help Desk is manned
Monday thru Friday,
9am-Noon***



<https://aggieturf.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/St.AugustineManagementCalendar2020.pdf>

<https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/library/landscaping/bermudagrass-home-lawn-management-calendar/>

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2010/10/audit.pdf> <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2010/10/audit.pdf>

<https://www.umass.edu/turf/fact-sheets/what-is-thatch>

https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/lawn_garden/commercial_horticulture/turfgrass/management-practices/cultural-maintenance-practices/topdressing-turfgrass-sod

[Urban Fertilizer Calculator with Lists \(tamu.edu\)](https://www.tamu.edu/urban-fertilizer-calculator)

[Soil testing: Why it is important \(farmmanagement.pro\)](https://www.farmmanagement.pro/soil-testing)

[Soil Testing and Soil Testing Labs | University of Maryland Extension \(umd.edu\)](https://www.umd.edu/soil-testing-labs)

[How to Do a Soil Test to Your Lawn \(And Read It\) - Plant for Success](https://www.plantfor.com/how-to-do-a-soil-test-to-your-lawn)

[Soils and Plant Nutrients Chapter of the North Carolina Extension Gardener Handbook](https://www.ncextension.org/soils-and-plant-nutrients)

[SWFTL Urban Fertilizer Calculator with Lists \(tamu.edu\)](https://www.tamu.edu/swftl-urban-fertilizer-calculator)

<https://www.johnson.k-state.edu/lawn-garden/agent-articles/lawns/watering-the-lawn.html>

https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/lawn_garden/commercial_horticulture/turfgrass/management-practices/cultural-maintenance-practices/topdressing-turfgrass-sod https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/travis/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Simple_Steps_Lawn_Care_2009.pdf

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