



Homeowner Maintenance Guide

Installation

It's important to properly grade and level the ground prior to installation. Apply Lawnifi Grow™ to help establish roots quickly. Soak upon installation and water regularly to keep sod from drying out for the first 10-14 days. Healthy EMPIRE will begin to put down roots within a few days of install. Excessive watering for an extended period will severely damage the lawn. Mow 10-14 days after installation at 2".



1" - 2" inches



1 inch per week TOTAL



Preventative Fungicide & Insecticide

Spring

- Following the final freeze of winter, give your EMPIRE a "buzz cut" at a low mower setting and bag up the clippings. We know it is scary, but it really helps! Your lawn will look rough for a week or so and that is normal.
- Apply Lawnifi Maintain™ monthly. Maintain contains iron and nitrogen for top growth and enhanced color while also fortifying the roots with carbon and amino acids to help your EMPIRE thrive.
- Apply a broad-spectrum insecticide that controls billbugs and grubs. Bayer® and Spectricide® make widely available products that work well.
- Don't over water. EMPIRE needs about one inch of water a week, taking into consideration rainfall. Turf off your irrigation during wet periods
- Apply a preventative systemic fungicide. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!
- Weed control with selective herbicides is OK, but a healthy EMPIRE lawn and hand pulling the few that pop up is the best weed control method.

Summer

- When mowing never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade at a time. If you need to cut more than 1/3, consider multiple cuts over 3-5 days.
- Apply Lawnifi Recover™ monthly. Recover has a balanced nutritional package that will keep your EMPIRE healthy and able to fight through the heat and drought stress of summer. Do not apply excessive nitrogen during the summer months.
- Keep your EMPIRE a little taller (around 2") and water deeply and infrequently in the summer to improve drought tolerance and encourage deeper roots. PRO TIP: EMPIRE's leaf blades start to curl up when it needs additional water. Wating for this will increase drought tolerance.

Winter

- In late fall/early winter – apply Lawnifi Recover 2-3 weeks prior to dormancy. This application will ensure a great start to spring.
- Your EMPIRE lawn will require very little additional care during the winter when it is dormant. Do not fertilize or water while dormant.. Enjoy EMPIRE's unique golden dormant color!

Fall

- Apply Lawnifi Maintain monthly during the fall
- Water less as temperatures drop. Too much water will lead to disease and fungus issues. EMPIRE doesn't like to sit in water.
- Put down a pre-emergent herbicide to keep winter weeds from germinating.
- Treat the lawn with a broad-spectrum insecticide that controls billbugs.
- Apply a preventative fungicide if conditions are wet.

A NOTE ON FERTILIZATION

Do not apply more than 3 lbs of N PER 1000 SQFT PER year, or more than .5 LB per application. Nitrogen drives top growth and greening, but in excess will cause more frequent mowing and fungus/disease pressure. Avoid fertilizers with excessively high nitrogen content.

