

# **LATITUDE** 36™ **bermudagrass**

## **Best Management Practices**

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**Fertility** – Latitude 36 requires less Nitrogen than other bermudagrasses.

- **February** – Soil test, liming based on soil results. Latitude 36 prefers a pH between 6 and 6.5
- **Late March** – Apply a 50% slow-release, 50% fast-release Nitrogen with equal parts Potassium (i.e., 15-0-15). This will give an instant feed to your lawn while also feeding it incrementally throughout the Spring months.
- **Early June** – Apply a 50% slow-release, 50% Nitrogen with half rate of Phosphorous and equal parts Potassium (i.e., 20-10-20). You can supplement this fertilizer with minor elements such as Magnesium, Manganese and Calcium to enhance the color without excess growth.
- **Early August** - Apply a 50% slow-release, 50% fast-release Nitrogen with equal parts Potassium (i.e., 15-0-15). This will carry your lawn into the Fall.

**Weeds, Disease, and Insects** – Preventative measures can help reduce the number of pesticides used on your lawn

- **Late February** – Apply your Spring Pre-Emergent (i.e., Dimension) at the medium labeled rate. This will help prevent summer grassy weeds such as crabgrass and goosegrass.
- **Early June** – A Broad Spectrum Insecticide treatment (i.e., Imidacloprid) will provide both preventative and curative control for fire ants, mole crickets and grubs.
- **Late September** – Apply your Fall Pre-Emergent (i.e., Barricade) at the medium labeled rate. This will help prevent Winter weeds such as Poa Annua, Carolina Geranium and other broadleaf weeds.

**Mowing and Cultural Maintenance** – Latitude 36 does best maintained at a mowing height between 0.75” and 1.25”

- **Spring** – Once your lawn begins to green up (late March) drop your mower one notch lower and give it a nice “shave” while either bagging or raking up the clippings. This will remove the dormant top and allow new growth to start pushing through.

- **Summer** – During periods of excessive growth you may need to mow your lawn more frequently to avoid scalping. It's also a good time to aerify your lawn to reduce compaction and thatch, and allow oxygen to penetrate the rootzone.

**Irrigation** – Deeper, infrequent watering helps promote longer roots that can withstand longer periods of heat and drought

- **Early Spring** – Conduct an Irrigation Audit to ensure all heads are working properly and coverage is adequate
- **Spring/Summer** – Increase times, not days. Your lawn's demand for water is lower during this time but still needs adequate moisture as it transitions into the Spring/Summer. Mother Nature typically provides enough moisture in our area during April but ideally you're looking for ½" of water per week in early Spring and ramping up to 1" per week by the time we're fully into Summer.
- **Late Summer/Early Fall** – During this period you will start pulling back on watering as the days get shorter and the nights get cooler.

**Pro Tips!**

- Latitude 36 does not like salt, use K-Mag or Sul-Po-Mag as your Potassium source in all fertilizers!
- The lower you mow the better Latitude 36 responds!
- Latitude 36 responds favorably to increased moisture, give it a little more water during periods of heat and drought stress!
- Sharp blades and more frequent mowing in the summer will help ensure a quality cut!

