



**GRAFF'S
TURF FARMS**

We Grow with You in Mind!



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Proud Sod Providers for:

Denver Broncos.....Invesco Field
Colorado Rockies.....Coors Field
CU Buffaloes.....Folsom Field
KC Royals.....Kauffman Stadium
St. Louis Cardinals.....Busch Stadium
Colorado Rapids.....Dick's Sporting
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Irrigation

After the first year, Buffalograss lawns in Colorado usually can be maintained with no irrigation beyond rain, though the quality of the lawn may be enhanced with some timely irrigation. During especially dry springs, irrigation when the turf begins to green up will insure a vigorous, dense lawn that can out-compete weeds.

Supplemental water is most beneficial in late May through August, the period of active stolon growth. Irrigation at this time helps stolons (above ground runners) develop roots at the nodes (enlarged areas along the stem of the plant), thus establishing new plants. Unfortunately, it also promotes weed growth. The lawn's green color can be somewhat extended in the fall with additional water, before freezing temperatures arrive.

- Water infrequently.
- Watering 1 inch once every 2- 4 weeks is adequate for most areas of established buffalograss turf.

Little water is required if buffalograss is left un-mowed.

Fertilizing

For best results, fertilize 3 times per year between June 1 and July 31 (or Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day). Nitrogen levels should not exceed 1 to 3 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per year.

For a winterizer, apply Nitrogen at a rate of 1/2 to 3/4 lb. of Nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

- Use the fertilizer from Graff's Turf Farm or equivalent.
- A fertilizer analysis of 20-20-10-3 or close explanation:

20	Nitrogen	Stimulates top growth
20	Potash	Stimulates root growth and root health
10	Phosphate	Stimulates root growth and root health
3	Iron	Promotes deep green color

Mowing

For a uniform appearance, mow at a height of 2 1/2 inches at 3 to 4 week intervals in late spring and 2 to 3 week intervals later in the season.

The more you mow, the more supplemental water will be required to maintain a thick, green turf. Minimal mowing and higher cutting heights promote a vigorous root system. Removal of more than 1/3 of the blade will reduce root activity and growth, making plants more susceptible to moisture stress near the soil surface. Do not cut the grass by more than 1/3 its total height at any one mowing.

Weed Control

Annual weeds (annual bluegrass and crabgrass) may be controlled

with spring applications of pre-emergence herbicides **labeled for use on buffalograss** such as Dacthal, **Dimension (most commonly available for homeowners)**, Ronstar G and Surflan. Other pre-emergence herbicides may give equally effective annual weed control. Broadleaf weeds, including dandelions and plantains, may be controlled with any of several products that contain 2-4-D and are **labeled for buffalograss**.

Check with your local gardener for pre- and post-emergence herbicides that are **labeled for buffalograss**. For control of winter annual weeds and invasive cool-season grasses like Kentucky Bluegrass, ****ONLY SPRAY ROUNDUP ON DORMANT BUFFALOGRASS**** in winter before green-up begins.

Cutting back on the water should help with the control of weeds as well. Inducing drought will choke out plants that cannot tolerate lack of water. The Buffalograss itself can handle less water.