

Warranty

All work will be done in a Professional manner.

My goal is to give you your money's worth, and save you money on the overall job.

Will warrant germination and growth through 90 days on *Fescue*; *Centipede* is warranted until 1" sprigs.

Will warranty <u>against washing</u> from natural rain and run-off, except where gutters dump and bottom of ditch lines, also where massive washing of soil occurs on slopes: (I can stick to soil, but cannot keep soil from washing when a water shed source such as a building, parking lot, sidewalks, and other such water shed environments exist. With these types of problems I will respray only once to try our luck to get an established turf. But these are areas that will have problems every time it rains; I recommend that these areas are patched in with Sod.)

Not responsible for weeds or weed growth. Not responsible for Dirt work or dirt repairs. Not responsible for insect damage.

If there is a problem, Please contact me before 90 days from time of plantings. After 90 days from planting, all warranties are void.

If you have any further questions, please check the FAQ section of <u>www.New-</u> **Grass.com** or contact us at:

A-1 Hydromulch of Tyler

(903) 571-4425 PO Box 10042 Tyler, TX 75711

The Quality of Turf depends on <u>YOU</u> and the care you give your lawn!

<u>Good Luck and Happy Growing!</u>



Care and Maintenance

Fescue/Centipede Lawn

History/Explanation of Process

Congratulations, on getting your new yard. This was written so to give you the information and guidelines toward a successful establishment of a permanent Centipede lawn. Centipede is a slow growing/spreading grass that requires a nurse/companion crop to be planted with it to help: #1. Hold plant in place; #2. Give you something to mow; #3. Help suppress weed growth. During summer months (April 1st to Sept. 1st) we mix Bermuda with the Centipede and over a two year period the Centipede completes into a sod-like lawn. During the fall months (Sept-15th to Dec. 1st) we use Fescue as the nurse crop, completion is about one year.

A1 Hydromulch is the developer of this Fescue/Centipede mix. It has been worked on for years (since early 1990's). Started out looking for a winter grass that could be planted and not grow the customer to death like annual rye grasses do. We also had been planting permanent seeds (Bermuda & Centipede) with rye grasses with just so-so luck. We found that Bermuda in this climate germinated during warm winter days & then died as soon as cold weather came back in. We also found that Centipede was very cold hardy and had no problems surviving the winter months. Centipede germinates and grows in temperatures of 60 degrees and above, so will grow into the fall months and earlier in spring than Bermuda's do.

Problems were with the rye grasses; #1. Rye died as soon as it got hot (first week of May to Mid-June); #2. Ryes allowed weeds to come it; #3. After rye dying, Centipede was just a tiny sprig and Bermuda's had not had a chance to germinate even if the seed had survived winter; #4. Rye grasses grew the customer to death, growing an inch a day; the customer would stop watering until the rye was dead and wonder why he had no grass. Well, you cannot germinate seed without watering it and the temperatures being warm enough.



This Fescue we use was originally introduced to us as a permanent grass for our area that was a "Turf-Type" very drought tolerant that was thick, short and beautiful, that would give the customer a "year around green yard".

Fescues grow up north in cooler climates and this one was supposed to survive our summers. Well, we have found it dies in late summer and is only good as a temporary grass here in this East Texas climate. Then after some experimentation we found it worked perfectly with the Centipede grass seeds. We then discovered that the Fescue/Centipede yards were completing in one year rather than two years with the Bermuda/Centipede mixes. The reason is the Fescue does not compete with the Centipede as much as Bermuda since Bermuda is a summer grass and Fescue is a Fall/Winter grass here in East Texas. The Fescue allows us to plant in the fall months giving a cover crop and a beautiful lawn that holds the Centipede seed in place while it is germinating, spreading and completing.

We have found out though that a sprinkler system is important to the success of the lawn completing. The Fescue is drought tolerant enough to not need watered very often and can survive without water without dying, even though it may show suffering from lack of water. Without water the Fescue will thin out sooner and allow weeds to grow in with it competing with the Centipede grasses. The Centipede on the other hand requires water twice a week because in early summer months it has a root system only about 1 inch deep. Lack of water will cause the Centipede to stop growing and go into a dormant cycle waiting until conditions are right to start growing again. The Fescue will also die off earlier (July 1st) from lack of water leaving just small sprigs of Centipede, weeds and bare dirt. This is why a sprinkler system is required to give regular watering (twice a week) to promote growth and completion of the Centipede grasses. Customers that hand water do not seem to water unless the lawn is showing signs of stress. They do not notice the Centipede under stress, because the Fescue above it is not showing stress (Fescue roots at this time are about 4 feet deep / Centipede roots are about 1 inch.)



Just after Installation

Watering

#1. Water 2 to 3 times a day keeping mulch and soil moist/wet. We recommend times on the sprinkler system:

If 3 times a day: 6:am, 11:am, 4:pm

If 2 times a day: 6:am, 2:pm

***If you have "**Pop-up**" type of Sprinkler heads water about **2 minutes**; these heads do not move and will wet the area pretty fast.

***If you have "Rotary" type of Sprinkler heads, water 5 to 7 minutes; these heads move around and it takes them longer for coverage. If you have a small yard and rotary heads, you may need to water less time as the heads are overlapping and watering more quickly.

Rotors that are next to a building are watering only a **180 degree**, while a rotor in the center of a large area maybe watering at a **360 degree**. The 360 is covering more area and will need more time to water, as the ones next to a building will need less time. When both types are on one station, you will need to balance it between over-watering next to the building and watering the open areas enough.

Remember we are trying to keep areas "Moist" to "Wet". Do not over-water as you will be washing the fertilizers out of the mulch & possibly washing the mulch and seed away. If Rain is coming, you might want to turn off the sprinkler system until it dries out; there is no reason for the system to come on during a rain storm. It is better if the lawn is a bit drier, if a storm is coming, rather than being wet.

Do this until lawn starts looking pretty and green. Then cut back watering to 1 time a day (6am) Early morning is best to water your lawn, not hot enough to evaporate from soil and the sun can evaporate the moisture from the leaves. Watering at night can cause a good environment for funguses to grow on grass. Try not to water at night.



After you start mowing, start graduating watering down to every other day and after a week of this to twice a week. Stay with twice a week until the Centipede completes. Then go to once a week, even though winter months.

Fertilizing

Fertilize with a **time release type** similar to **Scott's Turf Builder** (Stay away from the Weed and Feed types for two years & then only when needed, this type can kill your Centipede)

Fertilize 30 days after planting; then again April 1st, June 1st, Aug. 1st, and in Oct. 1st use a winterizer similar to Scott's Winterizer

After completion of the Centipede lawn, you might want to cut fertilizers back to half rate (mature Centipede does not need as much fertilizer to maintain lawn.) If the lawn looks as if it needs to thicken up, use full rate. If it is looking nice & thick, cut to half rate. Still fertilize 4 x a year.

You need a time-release type of fertilizer on Centipede because it can't handle strong quick release "Ammonium Nitrate". These cheaper type of fertilizers only last about 3 to 4 weeks and can kill the Centipede. Centipede also needs a bit of Iron additive that "Scott's Turf Builder" has ... 2% Iron. This is the brand we recommend, but stay away from the weed & feed type because this also will kill the new lawn.

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