

COMMON LAWN PROBLEMS

Sir Walter is a tough lawn that rarely suffers from any insect, pest or disease problems. In fact, Sir Walter is shade and drought tolerant and has the ability to self-repair while maintaining its colour throughout the year. That said it can still be plagued by some common lawn problems. Read on for how to deal with them.



If your lawn is not performing during the growing season (the warmer months) you should do the following:

Fertilise your lawn with 40 grams per square metre of Sir Walter Lawn Food or a similar product. Make sure that the product is specifically suited for the variety of lawn.

Water the fertiliser in until the lawn becomes soft or better still, apply the fertiliser while it's raining.

Repeat deep watering once a week for 6 weeks.

Always pick a small area of about 1 square metre and apply twice the amount of fertiliser and water this area as a benchmark for the rest of the lawn.

Does Your Lawn Need More Water?

If your lawn is growing better underneath a tap or close to a water source, it probably means that your whole lawn needs more water. As a general rule a longer and deeper watering is much more beneficial than shorter and more frequent watering. A more thorough watering will promote a deeper and stronger root system for your lawn plants. Aim to water your lawn in the early morning or early evening in order to reduce the amount of water lost from the soil through evaporation.

Does Your Lawn Need Fertilising?

If your lawn is greener or generally looking better and healthier next to your garden beds then fertiliser and nutrients are probably leeching from the garden beds into the turf. If this is the case then all of your lawn probably needs a good dose of fertiliser.



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Good Soil

Ensure that your lawn has at least 100mm of good soil underneath it. If not, a top dressing may be necessary however it is advisable that you complete a soil pH test prior to ensure that you are adding a top dressing that contains the right mix of nutrients and trace elements for your lawn. A soil pH test will determine the acidity or alkalinity of the soil and provide direction for how to bring the soil back to an optimum level.

Pests

Naturally if you notice an invasion of grubs or insects, immediate action will be required to deal with them. A pesticide or insecticide will be able to deal with the infestation but ensure that you always read the manufacturer's instructions and apply only as directed.

Weeds

There are two main options to ridding your lawn of weeds. The manual way; best for a small amount of weeds, and but using an herbicide for a larger infestation or a larger area of lawn. You must make sure that you use a product especially for the variety of lawn plants that you have. The wrong product will have disastrous consequences for your lawn particularly if you have a soft leaf buffalo lawn. Read the products carefully before purchasing or seek professional advice if you are still unsure.

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