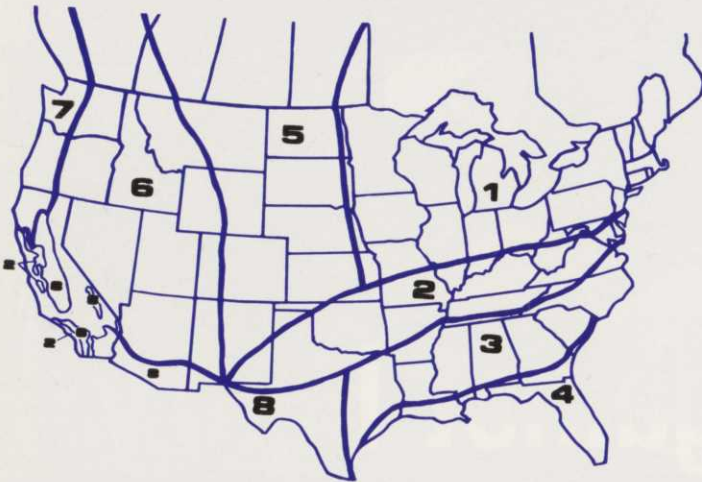


To improve your athletic field and help protect against injuries, seed with Palmer and Prelude Perennial Ryegrasses.

A. New seedings, March-May and August-October, Zones 1, 2, 5, 6, 7.

- Step 1.** Be sure that the field has adequate drainage. Use subsoil drains and proper surface grading.
- Step 2.** Apply starter fertilizer and lime.
- Step 3.** For complete coverage, divide seed in half and apply in two directions. The seeding rate is 300 lbs./acre.
- Step 4.** With a piece of chain link fence, drag the field in several directions to spread the seed.
- Step 5.** Roll the field to insure seed to soil contact and to firm the seedbed.
- Step 6.** Lightly irrigate 3-4 times a day. Continue to maintain a damp surface, but avoid washouts.
- Step 7.** Cut grass only after it attains a height of 2 inches.



B. Overseeding existing turf, March-May and August-October, Zones 1, 2, 5, 6, 7.

- Step 1.** Break up the soil surface using a verticut seeder or tractor drawn aerator. Drive this machinery over the field several times.
- Step 2.** Apply seed with a rotary or drop-type spreader. To avoid skips, divide the seed into halves and broadcast in two directions. The seeding rate is 200 lbs./acre.
- Step 3.** Spread seed by dragging the field in several directions using a piece of chain link fence. Use a roller to insure seed to soil contact.
- Step 4.** Irrigate lightly 3-4 times a day until the seed has germinated. Continue to maintain a damp surface after germination, reduce the frequency of watering. If irrigation is not possible, natural rainfall should germinate the seed within a couple of weeks. Without irrigation, establishment may take longer.

An alternative to step 1, is to let the players help work the seed in for you. Seed applied to thin or worn-out areas prior to play will come in contact with the soil as a result of the action of the game. By applying seed in this way, you can continue to add new grass plants to the field while the field is in use.

C. Dormant seeding of existing turf, November-March, Zones 1, 5, 6, 7.

- Step 1.** If the ground is not frozen, break up the soil surface using a verticut seeder or tractor drawn aerator, and drive this machinery over the field several times.
- Step 2.** Apply seed with a rotary or drop-type spreader. Divide the seed into halves and broadcast in two directions to provide complete coverage. The seeding rate is 200 lbs./acre.
- Step 3.** Spread seed by dragging the field in several directions using a piece of chain link fence. Use a roller to firm the seedbed and increase seed to soil contact.

No water is necessary. Seed will germinate in the spring.

D. Overseeding dormant Bermudagrass in the South, September-December, Zones 2, 3, 4, 8.

- Step 1.** Aerify and verticut during the summer months to minimize thatch. Do not aerify within 60 days of overseeding.
- Step 2.** Approximately 30 days before overseeding, reduce nitrogen fertilization to the Bermudagrass turf. This will limit its growth and reduce its competition with the newly overseeded grasses. However, an application of potash will help the Bermudagrass roots stay healthy over the winter and will also help in overseeding establishment.
- Step 3.** One day before overseeding, verticut the field in two directions and mow turf as low as possible. Remove all debris.
- Step 4.** Divide seed in half and spread in two directions. Seeding rate is 300 lbs./acre.
- Step 5.** Drag the field in several directions with a chain link fence in order to spread the seed well.
- Step 6.** Days 1-7, lightly apply water 4-5 times daily.
- Step 7.** Days 8-14, lightly apply water 1-2 times daily.

Approximate dates for overseeding dormant Bermudagrass

- (1) Sept. 1st week (4) Oct. 1st week
- (2) Sept. 2nd week (5) Oct. 3rd week
- (3) Sept. 4th week (6) Nov. 2nd week
- (7) Dec. 2nd week



In zone 2, the overseeding can be kept through the summer by raising the cutting height and irrigating properly. This will decrease annual overseeding costs.