

LM REPORTS

Tips for seeding with overseeders

Work can be done manually, but seeders and overseeders make the job more time-efficient.

■ By following a few well-established seeding procedures, a turfgrass manager improves the likelihood of establishing a strong stand of turfgrass. This is equally true for golf courses, football fields or home lawns.

The Guide to Seed & Sod in the United States and Canada by Dr. Richard Hurley and Marie Pompei of Lofts Seed offers the following seeding tips:

1) Prepare a good, crumbly seed bed: till 6 to 8 inches deep. Firm and level well after tilling.

2) Fortify the seed bed with fertilizer and lime. A soil test is the surest way to establish proper rates. Make applications uniformly, work into top 3/4 inches of soil.

3) After all materials have been worked in, firm up the soil by rolling.

4) With a wide-toothed rake or tine-harrow, rake the area into a crumbly state with about an inch of loose soil at the surface.

5) Apply the seed.

6) Lightly rake the seed into the soil. Seed needs to be bedded in the soil to germinate quickly and uniformly.

7) Optional mulching with straw or salt hay is beneficial, especially on sloping areas to hold soil and seed in place in heavy rain or during watering.

8) In the absence of rain, the newly seeded area should be watered 2-3 times daily.

Fortunately, turfgrass managers don't have to



The Bluebird International seeder holds about 20 lbs. of seed.

Befco models fit tractors from 26-60 hp and 18-40 hp.



Overseeding, pesticide injection or fertilizing can be done with the Dol overseeder.

do all this work manually. They can look to help from the manufacturers and suppliers of an assortment of seeders, some small enough to seed the tiniest lawns, others able to easily seed acres in a day. (See accompanying chart.)

Check with your seed supplier for recommended seeding rates. Different varieties of turfgrass require different rates.

—Ron Hall



Hahn's VCS-1 holds 750 cubic inches of seed.

Bunton models seed at 9 mph, with accurate control of seed flow.



PROFESSIONAL TURFGRASS SEEDERS

Company	Model	Features
BEFCO INC. Circle No. 301	Green-Rite II and III	Model I: one-pass, multipurpose seeder, aerator, for tractors from 25-60 hp. Model II: overseeder, aerator, 58" work width, 18-40 hp tractors.
BLUEBIRD INTERNATIONAL INC. Circle No. 302	3 Lawn Seeders	Walk behind, 5 hp or 7 hp B&S; seed hopper holds about 20 lbs. of seed; openings line up with Delta Reel blades.
BRILLION IRON WORKS INC. Circle No. 303	Turfmaker	11 models from 5'4" to 12' seeding widths; feed rolls fluted; precise metering of fine seeds; high-strength rollers; big capacity boxes.
BUNTON CO. Circle No. 304	BL0S59-DD, BL0S79-DD	59" and 70" widths; controls seed rates very accurately; individually mounted coulters; large hopper; can seed at 9 mph.
CUSHMAN RANSOMES RYAN Circle No 305	Mataway Overseeder/Dethatcher	Heavy-duty snap-out reels; adjustable seeding two-inch spacing; seed flow stops automatically when crossing sidewalks and driveways.
DAVENPORT SEED CORP. Circle No. 306	T-7II Multi-Purpose	Hand-operated broadcast spreader for pros; direct drive; full-view flow control knob; stainless interior parts, interior agitator.
DOL BROTHERS LTD. Circle No. 307	301 (48") and 210 (72")	5-in-1 turf solution: overseeding, pesticide-insecticide injection, fertilizer application, polymer granule placement, detaching/aerating.
EMREX, INC. Circle No. 308	Verti-Seed	For 17 hp tractor; PTO driven; 33" working width; 3 cu.ft. hopper; adjustable for all turf seed; smooth cutting discs, 21 elements.
GANDY CO. Circle No. 309	Dethatcher/Overseeder	For tractors 18 hp and up; cutter blades on 2-inch spacing; hopper capacity 125 lbs.; snap-off stainless bottom & slide; 24 seeding outlets.
GARBER SEEDER Circle No. 310	Seed Easy Seeders	PTO tractor, electric ATV broadcast seeders.
HAHN, INC. Circle No. 311	VCS-1 Verti-Cut	Seeder attachment: 750 cubic inches, 20-gauge sheet steel, agitator, hopper on/off controls.
JACOBSEN Circle No. 312	Aero King 1321	21-inch seeding/verticutting width; covers 23,000 sq. ft. per hour; double-bin seeder for separate varieties; vertical mowing/dethatching.
LAND PRIDE Circle No. 313	Overseeders, Primary Seeder	48" & 72" Overseeders, 72" Primary Seeder; metering for turfgrass seeds; adjustments for seeding depth, rates; roller pressure or tickler line pressure; all-welded steel box.
LESCO INC. Circle No. 314	Renovator 20	Seeder/slicer/dethatcher; 20" working width; compact; two full-width finishing brushes; spring-loaded reverse.
SPYKER SPREADER WORKS Circle No. 315	Walk behind seeders/spreaders	Dial-A-Matic rate control; vibrating rate gate; rotary agitators; frames finished in baked-on epoxy enamel.
WORKSAVER INC. Circle No. 316	Broadcast seeder/spreaders	Polyethylene and metal hoppers available; electric and PTO-driven; several sizes.

Source: LM mail/phone survey, April 1994