

JANUARY

- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). It pays off all season once the summer feeding program starts.
- Time to start your rolling pre-emergent. Apply the first round, switching active ingredients each round to avoid resistance.
- Light feeding (~0.5 lb N). Growth slows naturally here as days get shorter.

FEBRUARY

- Time for a scalp and verticut. This clears out a year's worth of thatch and resets the canopy.
- Spot-treat any broadleaf weeds.
[WEED ID TOOL → TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](#)

MARCH

- Growth picks up. Step feeding up to about 1.0 lb N / 1,000 sq ft.

APRIL

- Next pre-emergent round. Switch to a different active ingredient than last time.
- Keep up the heavy feeding, and mow low (1-2") and often.

MAY

- Scout aggressively for tropical pests, armyworms and chinch bugs especially.

JUNE

- Good time to core aerate during peak growth and relieve any compaction. Heads up: core aeration does not meaningfully break a spring pre-emergent barrier, contrary to common advice; still, apply the pre-emergent before you aerate when you can, and follow the product label.
- Keep up the heavy summer feeding.

JULY

- Next pre-emergent round. Switch active ingredients again.
- This is the peak recovery window. Good time to sand-level or topdress.
[SAND & TOPDRESS CALCULATOR → TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](#)

AUGUST

- Peak growth season. Heavy feeding and frequent mowing help keep thatch in check.

SEPTEMBER

- Keep up the regular feeding. The turf stays fully active here.

OCTOBER

- Last pre-emergent round of the cycle. Switch active ingredients once more.
- Watch for Large Patch in the tropical rains. A preventative fungicide (azoxystrobin) is worth it if you've had it before.

NOVEMBER

- Keep up the regular feeding.

DECEMBER

- Ease back on nitrogen as days shorten, and mowing can drop to every other week.

Good to know

Warm-season grass in USDA zone 10. Frost-free, year-round growth requires a rolling 90-day pre-emergent cycle, 12-month nitrogen feeding, and a mandatory late-winter scalp/verticut to prevent severe thatch choking.

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