

JANUARY

- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). Gets you set before the long 9-month feeding season here.
- Time for a spring scalp. Drop the mower and bag the semi-dormant clippings to clear the canopy.
- Soil hits 55°F as early as January here, time for the first half of your split pre-emergent.

FEBRUARY

- Spot-treat any winter weeds.
[WEED ID TOOL → TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](#)
- Green-up comes early here. Good time to make sure your mower blades are sharp.

MARCH

- Green-up is underway.
- About 45-60 days after the first round, apply the second half. This holds the barrier through the long summer.

APRIL

- Once you've hit 100% green-up, apply your first feeding (~0.5-1 lb N).
- Start mowing low (1-2") and often, every 3-4 days.

MAY

- Time for heavy summer feeding, about 1 lb N / 1,000 sq ft.
- Keep an eye out for mole crickets. Treat if you spot damage.

JUNE

- Peak growth season, good time to core aerate 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 feeding and frequent mowing.

JULY

- Sand-level now if you're leveling the lawn.
[SAND & TOPDRESS CALCULATOR → TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](#)
- Spot-treat weeds, but stick to heat-safe herbicides (like Celsius). Anything else risks burning the turf above 95°F.

AUGUST

- Keep up the regular feeding.
- Scout aggressively for armyworms and tropical webworms. They can wreck a canopy overnight.

SEPTEMBER

- Final feeding early in the month.
- A high-potassium feed (0-0-20) helps harden the rhizomes.

OCTOBER

- Soil cooling toward 70°F? Time for your fall pre-emergent to block *Poa annua*.
- Watch for Large Patch in the fall moisture. A preventative fungicide (azoxystrobin) is worth it if you've had it before.

NOVEMBER

- NO winter ryegrass overseed. It survives until June here and chokes out bermuda just as it's waking up.
- Growth slows down, but it rarely stops entirely here.

DECEMBER

- Semi-dormant. Expect the occasional mow for winter weeds, but minimal inputs needed.

Good to know

Warm-season grass in USDA zone 9. Extreme 9-month growing season. Requires January pre-emergent triggers and strict prohibition on winter overseeding.

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