

JANUARY

- Dormant for the winter, minimal activity until spring.

FEBRUARY

- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). It gets you set before fall, a cool-season lawn's biggest feeding.
- Soil hitting 50°F? Time for the first half of your split pre-emergent. Use a short-residual product.

MARCH

- Soil hits 55°F? Time for the second half.

APRIL

- Keep an eye out for Brown Patch as humidity climbs.
- Spot-treat any broadleaf weeds.
[WEED ID TOOL](#) → [TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](https://turftrigger.com/tools)
- ZERO NITROGEN.

MAY

- Keep nitrogen at ZERO. Nitrogen plus humidity here means a lethal fungal blowup.

JUNE

- Raise your mower to 3.5-4".
- Good time for preventative grub control.

JULY

- Absolute survival mode. Let the lawn go heat-dormant and water only about 0.5" every 2-3 weeks. Deep watering in this heat triggers immediate Brown Patch rot.

AUGUST

- Good time to scout for grubs, but do not push growth or aerate.

SEPTEMBER

- Late Sep, once the heat breaks: slit-seed any thin areas. NEVER core aerate.
- Apply starter fertilizer and mesotrione (Tenacity) with the seed. On fine fescue it can cause temporary whitening; the seedlings grow out of it.

OCTOBER

- Time for your primary fall feeding. Keep it lean at ~0.25-0.5 lb N / 1,000 sq ft.

NOVEMBER

- Drop your mowing height to 2.5", and skip the late-fall feeding.

DECEMBER

- Fully dormant, minimal activity until spring.

Good to know

Cool-season grass in USDA zone 7. ⚠ Survives ONLY in heavy shade here. Deep watering in summer heat will rot the crowns overnight. Strict zero-N in spring/summer.

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scan for live timing for your ZIP

