

### JANUARY

- Dormant for the winter. Keep traffic off the frozen turf to protect the crowns.

### APRIL

- Time for a spring scalp. Bag the dormant clippings so the sun can bake and warm the cold soil.
- Soil hitting 50°F? Time for the first half of your split pre-emergent.

### JULY

- Second light feeding of the year.
- Spot-treat any weeds, but stick to heat-safe herbicides.

[WEED ID TOOL](#) → [TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](https://turftrigger.com/tools)

### OCTOBER

- Turf enters dormancy as frosts arrive; top-growth stops for the season.

### FEBRUARY

- Still dormant through the deep freeze, nothing to do but let it rest.

### MAY

- Soil hits 55°F? Time for the second half.
- Sluggish green-up underway. NO NITROGEN YET. Wait for 100% green-up to avoid disease.

### AUGUST

- Feeding this month? Get it down early, then STOP nitrogen by mid-month so the turf can harden off.
- Raise mowing height by 0.5-1" to help build a winter insulation canopy.
- A high-potassium feed (0-0-20) acts like antifreeze for the rhizomes.

### NOVEMBER

- Fully dormant now.

### MARCH

- Still dormant, minimal activity this month.
- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). Zone-5's extremely short season needs every extra week.

### JUNE

- First light feeding. Keep zoysia lean here to avoid heavy thatch.
- If thatch tops 0.5", core aerate or dethatch, just pick one, since zoysia recovers slowly from either.

### SEPTEMBER

- Soil cooling toward 70°F? Time for your fall pre-emergent.
- Time for a preventative Large Patch fungicide (azoxystrobin). Crowns get infected before the rings ever show.

### DECEMBER

- Dormant under deep freeze, minimal activity until spring.

### Good to know

Warm-season grass in USDA zone 5. ⚠️ Extreme cold edge. Requires spring scalping to warm soil, late-summer canopy insulation to survive winterkill, and strict preventative Large Patch control.

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