



# Blackjack Bermuda

## Bermudagrass



### Best time to plant:

Mid-February to Early June

### Planting Rate:

2 lbs per 1,000 square feet

### Planting Depth:

1/4 inch. Rake and press

Roll something over the seed to ensure good soil contact.

### Sunlight:

6 to 8 hrs per day

### Irrigation:

- 10-14 days - Water as needed to keep the ground moist until the seed sprouts.
- Water 2-3 times a week for the next month

You may fertilize AFTER the second mowing, if needed

In early Fall give BlackJack a good dose of fertilizer.

In early Spring, give it a close mowing to green up.



**Blackjack** is a bermudagrass with a deep dark green color. It is sod forming with a carpet like density.

It has great cold tolerance, drought tolerance, and traffic tolerance.

**WATER REQUIREMENTS:** Seed beds should be kept moist until germination. For two weeks after planting try to water the seed beds 2-3 times a day, for about 10-15 minutes at a time, just to keep the top layer of soil moist. After germination you can cut watering back to once a day, if possible. Keeping the seed bed moist is very important to starting your lawn, especially in the heat of summer.

**MOWING HEIGHT:** Maintain Bermudagrass at 1 to 2 inches tall. The more you mow, the thicker and fuller your grass will become. Mow grass taller for more drought tolerance.

**PLANTING SPECIFICATIONS:** Sow Bermuda seed a 1/4 inch deep, using two pounds of seed per 1000 square feet. Bermuda can germinate quickly, usually in 10-14 days. Under the proper conditions, it can become fully established in 60 to 90 days. Seed may not germinate if the soil temperature is too cool or too hot.

**FERTILIZER:** Bermuda thrives on fertilizer. After your lawn is established you should apply fertilizer to Bermuda two to three times during the growing season. We recommend that you do not apply fertilizer onto your lawn until after the second mowing. If you get fertilizer down too early, it could hurt the growing process. In April, it will start to come out of its dormant state. When it is about 50% green, apply a slow-release, high nitrogen, fertilizer to your lawn. Make a second application about six to eight weeks later or as directed on the bag. A third application in another six weeks may be desired. Apply a "winterizer" to Bermuda around October to prevent winter injury.



## Getting the Best Success from Your Seed

The key traits of a person who has a “green thumb“ are patience and attention.

Patience is needed because all of your seed will not germinate at once. Attention is needed to ensure that you plant your seed at the right depth and at the optimal time.

Seeds have limited energy, if planted too deep they use up their energy before reaching the surface and die. However, if you plant too shallow the seed could dry out, blow away, or be eaten by birds.

### **Focus on the things you can control:**

1. **Planting Depth** - Pay attention to the recommended planting depth for each species. For many of the species we sell, a quarter-inch deep is all that is needed.
2. **Timing is Everything!** - It's very important to know when to plant. If you get it in the ground during the optimal windows of time, the plants know when to grow. They need adequate moisture and ideal soil temperature. Moisture is something we can control; temperature we cannot. Plant during the recommended planting time and, if possible, irrigate the area for ideal moisture.
3. **Know Your Region** - Plant the right seeds for your region. If you don't know what your region is, ask us!
4. **Prepare the Seedbed** Preparing the seedbed before you plant is very important. Try to remove all the other vegetation prior to planting by tilling or spraying an herbicide. The soil should be soft but not too loose. A good indicator is if your shoes leave a print in the soil, but don't sink in.
5. **Know Your Seed Type** Getting your seed spread out in an even matter will help you ensure a successful planting. Seed spreaders can help, but only if you get the tool that works best with your type of seed. For small areas, like a garden, hand spreading will work. It is important to match your seed to your planter or your planter to your seed!