



## Centipede Sod Care & Maintenance

*What Is Centipede Sod?* Native to The Lowcountry, centipede sod is a warm-season, low-maintenance grass that prefers to grow in a combination of full sun and partial shade. A minimum of 6 hours of daily sunlight is recommended. Regarding temperature, the sod thrives in high temperatures and goes dormant in low temperatures. Sensitive to drought and excessive wear, the sod has a slow growth pattern.

### Watering

- New sod should be watered at least every day until the grass has taken root. This can be determined by pulling on the grass. If it does not pull from the ground it has rooted. This generally takes two weeks. If you are watering dormant sod installed during the winter once the grass starts to green begin watering every day for two weeks or until the sod is rooted.
- Once centipede sod is rooted, it should receive approximately 1 inch of water per week.
- Be careful not to overwater as more damage is done by overwatering than by underwatering.
- We recommend watering in the cooler morning hours because there is less evaporation.
- Watering will vary for each lawn due to the amount of sunlight, soil conditions, and weather conditions.

### Fertilizing & Weed Control

- Centipede sod should be fertilized 3 times a year. Once in the spring, early summer, and early fall in the spring we recommend 10-10-10. For the early summer - a dose of 5-10-5 + iron. For the fall - another dose of 10-10-10.
- In the spring, broadleaf herbicide designed for pre-emergent is recommended. In the early spring, certain weeds will attempt to take control of a lawn by our growing the grass. If these weeds can be controlled until the grass starts to grow, the sod will choke out the weeds. During the summer spot spraying for weeds as they appear in the yard is most appropriate. During the fall when the grass starts to slow its growth weeds tend to try to take control again, we recommend using another dose of the broadleaf preemergent.

### Maintenance

- A healthy, beautiful lawn should be mowed often.
- No more than 1/3 of the blade height should be removed at each cutting. A 2-inch blade height is recommended for centipede sod.
- Sharp mower blades are encouraged for a precise clean cut each time.