

HAMMOCK CENTIPEDE from ENVIRONMENTAL TURF, INC.
863-452-6595 or www.environmentalturf.com

PRE-PLANTING TIPS

If Starting with Fresh Soil

Make sure soil is clear of weeds and debris. Wet soil thoroughly prior to sodding. After placement of sod, water thoroughly and roll with light weight roller to achieve a firm seal of sod to soil. Water daily with ½-inch of water per application. Once sod has rooted to soil, irrigation application can be slowly reduced to an as-needed basis.

If Replacing an Existing Lawn

Spray existing lawn with a recommended non-selective herbicide according to label suggestions. Remove old sod and any existing debris. Level surface. Continue with steps from Fresh Soil above.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Low maintenance, low fertilization, infrequent mowing. Hammock Centipede offers improved color over other Centipede grasses in that it is a deeper green. (Most centipede grasses are a yellow-ish green.) It also offers improved heat tolerance over other Centipede grasses. As it was bred here in Florida to withstand our Florida heat, Hammock Centipede can be grown all over the state, not just in the northern/panhandle part of the state where other cultivars are grown. Hammock Centipede exhibits a finer leaf blade than St. Augustine grasses and requires less maintenance.

FERTILIZATION: Less is Better

Hammock Centipede requires extremely low amounts of fertilizer. The University of Florida recommends only up to 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet be applied at one time, but at least 50% of that nitrogen should be in a slow-release form. In general, no more than 2 lbs. of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet should be applied to centipede grasses in a one-year period. Therefore, fertilization applications could be limited to no more than 2 per year.

Compared to St. Augustine: In general, St. Augustine grasses require about 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per month during the growing season. Hammock only needs about that much in a year.

MOWING: Low Vertical Growth

Hammock Centipede's vertical growth is slow so it requires less frequent mowing than St. Augustine grasses. With low fertilization and lower water for irrigation, it is estimated that Hammock Centipede can be mowed approximately six times per year, most of this coming in the wetter summer months. The University of Florida suggests that Centipede grass that is actively growing be mowed every 7 to 14 days at 1.5 to 2-inches in height. It is important to remove no more than 1/3 of the leaf blade at each mowing. For example, for a lawn to be maintained at 2-inches in height, it should be mowed only when the turf reaches 3-inches.

Compared to St. Augustine: In general, St. Augustine mowing heights range from 1 to 3-inches and should be mowed every 5 to 7 days during late spring and summer. Hammock can be mowed much less often, going as long as 14 days between mowings.

IRRIGATION: As Needed

Hammock Centipede is fairly drought tolerant. Although it should be maintained under irrigation, the University of Florida suggests that water need not be applied until the leaf blade folds up, begins to wilt, or when footprints remain actively visible after walking on the grass. Approximately 3/4-inch of water should be applied per each application. Centipede grasses, according to the University of Florida, have "good drought tolerance" and will generally recover from severe drought after a rain or irrigation. Over-watering can actually weaken this turf so, again, remember that less is better.

Compared to St. Augustine: The University of Florida recommends that St. Augustine grass receive at least 43-inches of water per year, through both rain and irrigation. Hammock Centipede, in general, requires less water than St. Augustine.