

# THE TURF TIMES



## Welcome to our newsletter.

Our goal is to provide accurate, researched information to develop and maintain your ideal lawn or athletic field.

Each issue contains an article written by Blue Grass staff, as well as information from university researchers and tips from area experts. This issue contains fertilizing advice from Mike Loan, owner of Blue Grass Enterprises.

Feel free to contact us with questions or suggestions at any time. 319-842-2165 or [sarah@bgsod.com](mailto:sarah@bgsod.com)

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### In this issue

#### *Feed me, Seymour.*

- Fall feedings (basic broadleaf control)

### Upcoming topic

- Crabgrass, Creeping Charlie and all of their friends



## Feed me, Seymour...

As Mike says, "If you are only going to fertilize one time of year, it should be fall."

### Hungry, hungry rhizomes...

If your yard is looking sad despite your watering **it is hungry. The best solution is to put down an application of 13-13-13** (a starter fertilizer) and water it in well *immediately*. 13-13-13 is a quick-release fertilizer that will be out of your lawn in time for your Step 4 application (see below). 13-13-13 is equal parts nitrogen, phosphorus and potash - all nutrients important to healthy plant growth. Additionally, each 13-13-13 granule contains all three nutrients (called 'micronutrients'), providing equal access to each plant. In essence, 13-13-13 is a well-balanced meal designed to promote overall health in your yard.

**Pro Tip: A well fed and lush yard will prevent weeds from coming in.**

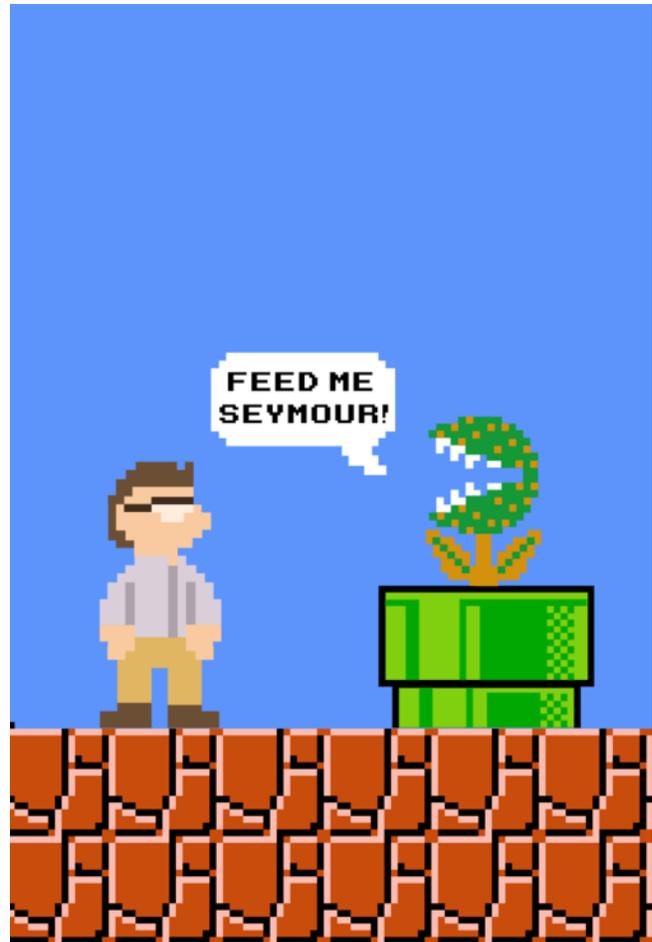
### Step 4 - The Hero We Deserve, but not *right* now

"Step 4" of our maintenance program is the fall application (see here: <http://www.bgsod.com/blue-grass-4-step-turf-products>). Step 4 is a slow release fertilizer & a broadleaf control.

Because Step 4 is a "weed and feed" you may be tempted to put it down now because weeds are showing up. However, **it is still too early to apply Step 4**. For best results, Step 4 should be applied any time between the end of September through the end of October. **We usually wait until the first frost to put ours down on the yard by the office.**

### Important facts to remember about Step 4:

1. Should be applied when grass is wet (morning dew or post-rain/irrigation) Once applied you DO NOT want rain/irrigation for at least 24 hours!
2. Remember that you should not apply Step 4 if you seeded your yard this fall.
3. Step 4 is a broadleaf curative. **If you are having trouble with crabgrass, then you need to do Step 2 in the SPRING.**



**"A malnourished yard needs a well-balanced meal like 13-13-13. Think of it like how you feed your kids. Yes, they can survive on just cheese, but they would be missing out on other important nutrients."**

- MIKE LOAN, OWNER,  
BLUE GRASS ENTERPRISES

### Blue Grass Staff Pro Tips:

Apply fertilizer after mowing so you can use your mowing tracks as guide lines.

If you are using a Scotts brand rotary spreader, remember they are designed to have a 10% overlap with your application passes. So if the distribution diameter is 10 feet, plan on a 1 foot overlap with each pass.