

FERTILISER KNOWLEDGE

Why fertilise your lawn?

Fertilising keeps a lawn deep green in colour, growing vigorously and full, but there's more to fertilising than just keeping a lawn looking good. The right balance of nutrients in the soil, makes a lawn more resistant to insects and disease, and makes it better able to withstand extremes in cold, heat and drought. Proper fertilising also discourages weeds and moss.

Fertiliser is made up of these three main elements

N = Nitrogen	Keeps lawn green and helps with disease and wear tolerance
P = Phosphates	Promotes root growth.
K = Soluble Potash	Strengthens lawn against climatic conditions, i.e. drought and cold.

In a perfect world, our lawn would be self-sustaining. However, under maintained situations, (eg regular mowing) turf grass does not receive the proper amounts of nutrients for superior growth, from nature alone. It must be supplemented by the addition of nutrients.

How often and how much we apply is governed by: -

- Environmental stress, (climate) usage and wear factors, height of cut.
- Soil fertility.
- Grass species.
- Role of soil type in nutrient retention. (How long the soil can hold the nutrients)

All these are important for a perfect lawn. However, when it comes to fertilising, it is the type of soil on which the lawn is growing, that has the greatest bearing. Course, sandy soils tend to have low nutrient retention, and are readily leached, whereas the fine textures of clays and loams have a greater ability to retain nutrients.

This is the main reason that we make a choice in feeds for each lawn.

Lawn Master will make the right choice in feed for your lawn type.



Poly coated slow release

In the lawn treatment industry, this product is the usual choice in feed, because it has a special coating, is non-scorch, lasts a long time, and is one of the easiest to apply. This little orange feed is 40 percent nitrogen, and therefore achieves green lawns.

This product is generally a good feed, but caution is needed when choosing to apply it. If it is over-used (more than twice a year) it can cause spongy lawns, an abundance of top growth problems and tight knit sward. This can result in extra scarification work being required.

We have encountered lawns that have been fed with this feed year on year by some operators, and subsequently the customers now have ruined lawns.

We can get away with this product on about 50 percent of lawns, but at Lawn Master we don't feel that this is good enough. We want every lawn to be right!

There is no point in feeding a lawn and then creating other problems whilst doing so.

Lawn Master as a company, use a range of balanced feeds based on trained expert knowledge. The feeds that we use may still be slow release feeds in some cases, but there are hundreds of quality feed choices available that will last as long. Some contain trace elements and soil conditioners, thus allowing us to use lower nitrogen levels, causing less sponge in your lawn, but still maintaining the deep green colour.

Please Remember:

Lawn Master are the only company that shuns the 'one suit fits all' method.