

Turfgrass Maintenance Comparisons

Annual turfgrass maintenance comparisons for five turfgrass species after at least one year of growth. Estimates are based on a four to five month period of high maintenance management.

Input Comparisons to Ky Bluegrass = 100%

Species	Irrigation %	Fertilizer %	Mowing Frequency %	Pesticide* %	Thatch Management %
Ky Bluegrass	100	100	100	100	100
Per Ryegrass	100	100+	100+	100+	67
Tall Ryegrass	80	60	85	40	33
Bermudagrass	80	50	80	33	100
Buffalograss	67**	25	40	33	33

* Includes any combination of insecticide, fungicide and herbicide use.

** At 20" or more annual rainfall no supplemental water will be needed for buffalograss except in a period of extended drought.

Annual turfgrass maintenance comparisons among five species commonly grown in transition and warm temperate regions of the United States. Estimates are based on a four to five month period of high maintenance management on turfgrass established more than one year. Ranges given to reflect needs in different climate and environment.

Species	Irrigation	Fertilizer	Mowing Frequency	Pesticides	Thatch Tendency
Tall Ryegrass	5-10 days	2-4 apps	5-7 days	3 apps	2
Ky Bluegrass	3-5 days	3-6 apps	5-7 days	3-5 apps	4
Per Ryegrass	3-5 days	2-4 apps	5-7 days	2-5 apps	3
Bermudagrass	7-14 days	2-4 apps	5-7 days	1-2 apps	5
Buffalograss	7-35 days	0-3 apps	7-35 days	1-2 apps	1

* Thatch management includes aeration, verticutting, power raking or other thatch removal techniques. 1 = least 5 = most.

Reprinted from a professional turf association newsletter (whose name we have lost so we can't give appropriate credit). Listed rates more applicable for eastern Nebraska. Adapt rates to your region.

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