

# Congratulations!

You are now the proud owner of one of the most advanced turfgrass lawns in Florida. Scotts® ProVista™ is a warm season species rooted in history with its base genetics being Floratam St. Augustine, which has been the gold standard for Florida lawns since 1972. ProVista's ability to adapt to a wide range of environmental conditions and cultural practices makes it the perfect choice for your Florida lawn. Below is a general use and care guide to help with the annual maintenance decisions that will lead to a beautiful lawn for years to come.

## Irrigation\*

- Provide adequate water to avoid wilting or stress; the amount will vary as the seasons change.
- A target amount is 1" per week in times of no rain or excessive heat.
- Watering in the early mornings is ideal.
- For hot spots in the lawn, you can hand water in the middle of the day to cool the grass down.
- Your irrigation system should have a rain sensor to allow for shutdown during rain events.

## Mowing

- The majority of mowing needs will be from May 1st – September 30th.
- Use sharp blades to ensure a clean cut.
- Leave clippings on the lawn to act as natural fertilizer (bagging is ok if preferred).
- A recommended mowing height is 3.0"-4.0".
- Avoid waiting too long between mows. Mowing should reduce the height of the grass by no more than 1/3. Cutting off more will lead to 'scalping' which will injure the crown of the plant and ultimately stress the grass.
- Change the mowing pattern from time to time to avoid excessive traffic.
- Be careful not to weed-eat excessively in the same spots in the Fall and Winter (because of slowed growth); this will have the same effect as scalping with a mower.

## Fertilizing\*

- A recommended fertilizer program for Scotts ProVista St. Augustinegrass is an application of Scotts® Turf Builder® Southern Triple Action in the Spring, Scotts® Turf Builder® UltraFeed™ in the late Spring, and Scotts® Turf Builder® Southern Triple Action again in the Fall. Substitutions to the program can be made depending on desired performance and presence of weeds and insects.
- Avoid applying dry fertilizer to wet grass.
- Lightly water in dry fertilizer applications when complete.
- Be cautious if using weed and feed fertilizer products (read label and follow instructions).
- Avoid applications ahead of rain events to avoid leaching of nutrients.

### \*Adhere to any Local and State regulatory guidelines/restrictions

Consult the UF IFAS Extension publication, *St. Augustinegrass for Florida Lawns* (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/lh010>), as a reference for maintenance recommendations.



There is no "one model fits all" approach to irrigating. Use a best judgment approach to how much water to apply.



ProVista™ does not require as many annual mows as other St. Augustine grasses. Less mowing leads to less equipment wear and tear, happier neighbors, and financial savings.



There are many fertilizer products to choose from. Whether you are applying yourself or hiring a service, just remember that grass requires nutrients to survive and thrive. Letting your lawn become hungry and weak will only increase the threat of insects and disease.

## Disease\*

- **GREY LEAF SPOT** (small brown/grey lesions on leaves) prevalent in Summer
  - Stress will trigger grey leaf spot (excessive fertilizer, excessive heat, scalping, excessive moisture).
  - The lesions usually go away on their own once the stress factor is eliminated.
- **LARGE PATCH** (circular patches/rings of dried out, necrotic grass blades) prevalent in Fall/Winter.
  - Large patch is a soil-borne fungus that is present all year; however, symptoms show in October-February.
  - A preventative fungicide application is recommended before October 15th, with follow-up applications recommended according to product label suggestions. Your lawn may never experience this disease, but once it does, the symptoms will show up every year. Remember the large patch pathogen exists in all Florida soils, but that does not mean your lawn will be affected.
  - A professional lawn care operator will be able to make the applications if needed.



To accurately identify either of these diseases, you can search the internet for corresponding imagery. Once confirmed, refer to the information provided to treat accordingly.

## Insect Pressure\*

- **CHINCH BUGS** (small, pinhead-sized black and white winged bugs that feed on stems) prevalent in Spring and Summer.
  - The damage looks like dried out or burned, irregular-shaped patches of grass that can spread if untreated.
  - Chinch bugs usually start along sidewalks or high spots in the lawn where the grass is dry and hot.
  - Once chinch bugs are identified, an application of a labeled insecticide should be applied to eliminate spread.
- **SOD WEBWORMS** (small, rice-sized, clear/green worms that feed on leaf tissue) prevalent in Summer and Fall.
  - The damage looks like dull colored grass; the leaves will be notched from the feeding, and worm frass will be present in the canopy of the grass
  - Webworm moths will lay eggs in grass canopy - 3 weeks later, the worm larvae will be present. Multiple generations can persist if left untreated. The moths are attracted to green, lush grass.
- **MOLE CRICKETS** (similar in size to a peanut, brown in color, feed on the grass root system) prevalent year round.
  - The damage looks like dried out grass, loose soil, visible underground tunnels.
  - Mole crickets will be in moderate to heavy populations before significant damage is visible in St. Augustinegrass.



If you suspect any of these insects, you can search the internet for imagery to confirm. Once you have correctly identified the target insect, you can treat accordingly. You may never experience any of these pests, but if you do, early and accurate diagnosis and treatment is recommended.

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For more information, visit  
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