

Kentucky Bluegrass for Ontario Lawns: What You Need to Know

Sodding Canada | sodding.ca | GTA Ontario

Quick Reference Guide

1 **Sun assessment: check how many hours of direct sun your lawn gets daily**

Kentucky bluegrass needs 6 or more hours of direct sun. Count the hours on a summer day. If under 4 hours, plan for fine fescue instead.

2 **First mow: late April at 7.5 to 8 cm**

Mow when actively growing, not when ground is still soft or soggy from spring thaw.

3 **Spring fertilizer: early May, balanced slow-release**

Avoid heavy nitrogen in spring. You want root growth, not a top growth surge that leaves the lawn vulnerable to summer stress.

4 **Summer watering: 2.5 cm per week, twice per week deep watering**

Water in the morning. Set a timer to run long enough to penetrate 15 cm. Shallow daily watering produces shallow roots.

5 **Summer mowing height: 7.5 to 9 cm during July and August**

Never scalp KBG in summer heat. Taller grass shades the soil and prevents dormancy.

6 **September core aeration: the most valuable annual maintenance task**

Ontario clay soils compact easily. Annual aeration is essential for healthy KBG root systems.

7 **Late September fall fertilizer: potassium-rich slow-release**

This is the most critical feed of the year. It builds root reserves for winter and drives a strong spring green-up.

8 **October final mow: drop to 6.5 cm for winter**

Slightly shorter final cut reduces snow mold risk without scalping the lawn.

Free estimates across the GTA | sodding.ca