

Turf Tamer



Based on your responses, you've earned the title of "Turf Tamer."

We've got some time-tested, pro-level tips that will help you reach your goal of a fine-looking lawn while still protecting kids, pets, and our local waterways.



Turf Tamer's characteristics include:

- Some weed tolerance
- Possibly just starting out and trying different things to see what works
- Have likely tried using weed and feed to fix their lawn

Here's a few things to consider for the future:

Allowing some weeds to be in your lawn is generally fine. Most are easy to control just by mowing weekly and digging out periodically to keep them from seeding.

If your lawn is overrun with weeds, we recommend

starting over; see our tips for that [here!](#) The best time to remove an overly-weedy lawn is August 15 to September 15, second best is May to mid June).

Since you've indicated you may have used weed & feed, we hope you'll check out our video on the

[Downsides of Weed and Feed](#). The video highlights potential risks of weed and feed and liquid fertilizer as well as safer alternatives.

When it comes to fertilizing your lawn, you can level up by [mulch mowing](#), a technique which adds free fertilizer to your lawn.



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Consider taking our pledge to try separating your weed control from fertilizing and not using combination weed and feed.

TAKE THE PLEDGE 

A Caution about Liquid Fertilizer

Using a slow-release fertilizer is recommended by turf experts over quick release/liquid types because they last longer and are therefore more available for roots to absorb over time, as they need it. It is also safer for our local waterways.

Conversely, liquid fertilizer is easy to over-apply and “burn” (a.k.a. kill) your lawn. Excess fertilizer or fertilizer applied just before a rain can runoff into streams and rivers.



If you decide to use liquid fertilizer, do so in April when the lawn is growing and there are a few dry days ahead in the weather forecast. Apply carefully so that excess fertilizer does not run off the lawn and get into groundwater, local wells, streams and wetlands.

Overseeding

Turf experts recommend that if you do one additional thing other than mowing or occasional weed control, overseeding in fall as the best way to keep your lawn dense and healthy.

[See our Overseed short video](#), mulch mowing short video, or complete medium maintenance lawn regimen video for more info!

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Our Lawn Care Videos



Medium-maintenance Lawn



Overseeding



The Downsides of Weed & Feed



Benefits of Mulch Mowing?

Awesome Weeding Tools



Stainless Steel Hand Weed Puller



Hori Hori Gardening Knife



Hand Sickle Garden Tool

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Other Lawn Care Resources

Here's a quick list of our resources covering fertilizing lawns, DIY lawn installation, weeding tools 101, and a searchable list of grasses and groundcovers for a variety of needs and yard conditions.

[Fertilizer Fact Sheet](#)

[DIY Lawn Renovation](#)

[Grass Seed and Ground Cover All Stars Page](#)

Still need more advice? Visit the OSU Extension page, where you'll find a wealth of yard and garden tips:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/ask-extension>