



# Lawn care guide - Fertiliser tips



## Strong lawns are fertilised just enough

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If you fertilise your lawn, do it in September or October, which is the best time of the year for feeding because the grass is actively growing after the cooler dormancy period.

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Fertilising once a year is enough in Townsville.

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Fertilising in the wet season is a waste of time and money. The rain gives your lawn all the nutrients it needs.

4

Give your lawn a drink of water before feeding it solid fertiliser and always give it another drink straight after. This will prevent leaf burn.

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Giving your lawn a deep watering less often is best for health of the lawn. A slow soak allows nutrients to work deep into the soil and encourages strong roots.

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Grass clippings are full of nitrogen and your lawn loves them! Leave your catcher off your mower during the dry season, this will reduce the amount of fertiliser you need to use.

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Fertilisers that are high in nitrogen and low in phosphorous are best for Townsville conditions.

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The best N:P:K:S ratio\* for your lawn is 15:4:12:14

\*The NPKS ratio is amounts of Nitrogen (N): Phosphorus (P): Potassium (K): Sulfur (S) in your fertiliser.

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Remember, the more you feed your lawn, the more you're going to have to mow it and water it!

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Make sure you don't overdo it with fertiliser! Using too much can cause problems elsewhere in our local environment like algal blooms which can cause fish kills, and accelerated weed growth.

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The correct amount of fertiliser for your yard will make your lawn more water efficient.

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If you notice your lawn has a purple tinge this could mean it's low on phosphorous. A yellow tinge means low nitrogen. This is your lawn telling you it's not getting the food it needs, so try adjusting your fertiliser.

### How to make the most of free fertilisers

Mowing the lawn is basically harvesting nutrients and water. Adding the right type of fertiliser, at the right time, can help build a healthier lawn's. It is important to remember your lawn's dormancy period when feeding your lawn. Many lawns require no fertilising at all as they make the most of clippings generated during slower growing months.

	HOW TO GET IT RIGHT		
	ZOYSIA	COUCH	BUFFALO
WHAT	Slow release	Slow release	Slow release
WHEN	Once a year September-October		
HOW MUCH	2kg/100m <sup>2</sup>	3kg/100m <sup>2</sup>	3kg/100m <sup>2</sup>