

SODDING VS. SEEDING



Why sod? Why not seed?

Overall, sod is less work for you.

A professionally sodded lawn is healthy and mature when installed and can be ready for full use within two to three weeks; a seeded lawn requires two or more years of careful nurturing to reach maturity.

The sod at Blue Grass is grown under expert supervision from top quality seed that is specifically chosen for optimal performance in Iowa's climate and soil type.

After the lawn is installed, just water, mow and fertilize your sod lawn as needed and it will remain a healthy, green carpet of grass, requiring little maintenance. With seed, you may need to reseed due to washouts, plan your summer around optimal seeding times, or overseed the following year to fill in areas that did not take the first time around.

Variables to Consider

- Amount of labor
- Location and incline
- Desired Usage
- Time of Year
- Risk of seed failure
- Overall investment
- The final product
- The environment



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 Blue Grass Enterprises, Inc.

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Location

Seed generally does well on flat ground, but can still require overseeding if not all of it takes. It can be difficult to establish on hillsides, ditches or on bare soil. Sod can be installed anywhere. Sod is often used to stop soil erosion on inclines where rain would wash away both seed and soil.

Usage

Sod establishes quickly. Within two to three weeks it will be ready for full use in parks, golf courses, athletic fields, residential homes and business grounds. A newly seeded planting is not usually considered to be “mature” or “established” for 18-24 months after planting.

Timing

Sod can be installed whenever the soil is “tillable”. Seeding must happen in early spring or early fall.

Less risk

Sodding removes the risk of seed failure. If seed failure occurs, this will increase the amount of time you have to put into your lawn, the time you have to wait for a lawn, and also your bottom line.

Good Investment

Sodding increases your property value significantly. Research supports that home values increase 10-15% with a maintained lawn.

No Surprises

When seeding your lawn, you may not be happy with the look of your turf when the yard finally fills in. It's hard to know what kind of varieties will produce the lawn you would like, if the seed quality is high (or if weeds are potentially mixed in) or if the mixture will do well in Iowa's climate.

With sod, what you see is what you get. Visiting our sod farm before you place an order will show you exactly what your lawn will look and feel like once it is installed. We also sell recommended products to keep your lawn looking fabulous long-term.

The Environment

With today's ecological concerns, many more people are considering sod because of its immediate environmental benefits. The U.S. Congress has acknowledged these positive benefits to our environment.

“Turfgrass sod in urban areas and communities can aid in the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, mitigating the heat island effect, reducing energy consumption and contributing to efforts to reduce global warming trends.”

A Natural Filter

Turfgrass acts as a natural filter, reducing pollution by purifying the water passing through its root zone as well as trapping and removing dust and dirt from the air. 600 square feet of lawn absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and releases enough oxygen for one person to breathe throughout a day.

Soil Erosion

Turfgrass is the most cost-effective method for controlling wind and water erosion. A sodded lawn will absorb greater amounts of rain than a seeded lawn; even after three years of growth.

Nature's Air Conditioner

On a hot summer day, lawns will be 30 degrees cooler than asphalt and 14 degrees cooler than bare soil. The front lawn of a home has the cooling effect of about 9 tons of air conditioning (the average home uses roughly 2.5 tons). The cooling effect of irrigated turf reduces the amount of fuel that must be burned to provide the electricity which powers the air conditioners.