

# Doff Grass Seed Instructions

## How to Sow Grass Seed:

Seeding a lawn is not difficult and can be done successfully by anyone. If you are sowing seed, follow these five simple steps for best results.

### Step 1 – Buy the best grass seed

A great lawn can only be grown from great grass seeds. Buy the best that you can afford – while taking into account what the lawn is going to be used for.

A back lawn grass seed mixture should be hard wearing to withstand children playing or pets.

### Step 2 – Prepare the soil

#### For planting new lawns:

- Loosen the top 2 to 3 inches of soil.
- Remove debris (sticks, stones, etc), from the area.
- Break up larger soil clumps.
- Avoid too fine soil, small clumps are acceptable.
- Level the areas where excess water might collect.
- Fertilize before seeding with a starter fertilizer.

NOTE: Do not use weed killers before or after planting seed.

#### For over-seeding an existing lawn:

- Mow grass as short as possible.
- Loosen the top ¼-inch of soil in bare spots.
- Remove debris and dead grass.
- Level the areas where excess water collects. Use existing topsoil; added soil may have weed seeds.
- Fertilize the bare spots a few days before over-seeding with a starter fertilizer and ensure it is thoroughly mixed in with the soil.

### Step 3 – Sow grass seed

- Spread the seed evenly by hand in small areas (approx. 35 grams per square metre or 1 oz per square yard). Depending on the condition of the area, you can cover up to 35 m<sup>2</sup> (375 ft<sup>2</sup>) for new lawns and 60 m<sup>2</sup> (645 ft<sup>2</sup>) for existing lawns (overseeding and minor repairs).

For a more accurate figures please read the back of the box as the above may vary

- Use a hand or lawn spreader or a mechanical seeder in large areas.
- Too many seeds too close together causes seedlings to fight for room and nutrients causing grass to be weak or thin in these areas.

### Step 4 – Cover Seeds

- Lightly drag the grass seed bed so no more than ¼-inch of soil covers the grass seed.

### Step 5 – Water often

- Keep grass seed bed moist to enhance germination.
- Water lightly (don't saturate), and frequently (at least once daily), until new grass is two inches high.
- Water new grass regularly to keep roots moist.

## **When to Sow Grass Seed:**

**Grass seed can be sown in the Spring and Autumn with good results.**

If you are planning a spring sowing of grass seed, do not apply weed control products to the grass. Delay the weed control application until the grass seed has germinated and you have mowed the grass at least 3 times.

**For an Autumn sowing of grass seed**, follow the same weed control precautions and time the seed sowing to allow the grass seed to fully germinate before freezing temperatures arrive.

This is for guidance only please read the back of the box