

## 1: Weed and Feed Product Reviews - The Lawn Guide

*The lawn care program and calendar continue to be reader favorites. Discover interesting facts and figures, history, tips on compost making, and care suggestions for non-grass and synthetic lawns. pages (all in color), 7 1/4 x 9 1/2.*

Lawn Grubs Video controlling lawn grubs becomes easy with this quick video Lawn Mowing Tips how to increase lawn mowing quality with less effort Laying A New Lawn preparing soil and the process of laying a new roll-on lawn Weed Control how to control lawn weeds - with the least amount of effort Water and Fertiliser properly watering and fertilising lawns for greatest benefit Lawn Blogs Lawn Care Blog broader lawn care discussions about lawn care, lawn care industry and turf industry Lawn Expert Blog expert lawn care advice from guest writer Todd Layt, breeder of Sapphire soft leaf buffalo Search For lawns that receive moderate wear, where good winter colour is desired, and low to moderate mowing is desired. Fertilise at the beginning of April and again in mid-June with slow release fertiliser applications at a heavy rate. Empire needs less fertiliser than all other turf types, so all other fertilising applications other than autumn and winter are optional and not necessary to keep a healthy lawn under these circumstances. The benefit of fertilising just in autumn and winter only, is far less mowing. Empire is very happy with just these two applications every year. Fertilised well in autumn and winter and shortly mown, results in Empire having much better winter colour. Longer Empire tends to brown off more on the tips. So the best option is to mow short from around the 10th of March. Keep it like that till mid-September. Then you can let it grow a little longer. If you have shade, or prefer the lawn a little longer, the other option is to fertilise as advised, and if in the middle of winter the tips brown off, simply mow very lightly removing the burnt tips. In regions that get only a small number of light frosts, the tips will not brown. For lawns that get high wear, or where you want a super dark green lawn all year round and do not mind mowing a little more. Fertilise in autumn and winter as per option 1, then also fertilise in mid-October with a moderate rate of slow release fertiliser, or a heavy rate of organic type fertiliser. Empire does not need fertiliser in summer; however it may be worth considering further optional applications under extreme circumstances. If your lawn receives very heavy wear from dogs or kids, or you want a dark green lawn all summer and do not mind mowing more, you can optionally fertilise again in mid-November, and at the end of February with moderate rates of slow release fertiliser. For lawns that you want reasonable winter colour, but do not care if your lawn browns off a little near the middle of winter, or if you live in Queensland where it will generally stay green in winter with just one fertilise, and your main aim is to mow much less. Fertilise at the beginning of April only with slow release fertiliser applications at a heavy rate. Empire will still have quick spring green up. Empire needs less fertiliser than any other lawn type. Option 3 will mean less than a half to a third the mowing of Buffalo turf, and a quarter to a fifth the mowing of Couch and Kikuyu. No fertiliser at all for roadsides or low to moderate wear areas for people who hate mowing, resulting in a lawn that requires only 2 to 4 mows per year. For many years roadsides have used Empire all over Australia. In most regions for roadsides by not fertilising, Empire only needs two mows per year; three to four in Queensland. The lawn is usually left to grow a little longer before mowing, for example 75mm to 90mm. Then it is mown to about 40mm to 50mm high. Empire will brown off in winter with no fertiliser, but it will green up quickly in spring. Treating the lawn like this will not result in a fully manicured looking lawn, but it will generally look acceptable. University research in the USA shows Empire can live on very low nutrients compared to other turf types. Mowing In general Empire can be mown very short or longer depending on the desired finish. If you want a green manicured bowling green type lawn, regular short mowing will achieve that. As a general lawn, fortnightly spring and summer mowing should be enough, unless it is highly fertilised, then mowing each 10 days may be needed for a bowling green appearance. With no spring and summer fertilising, Empire can usually be mown every 3 to 4 weeks or so. Mow to a height that does not cause scalping. Mowing practice can also help keep Empire greener in winter. Leave at a moderate length for most of the year. If after all the recommended fertilising the lawn browns off in winter, lightly mow the Empire. Under moderate frosts and even the odd heavy frost, mainly the tips of the leaf burns on Empire, thus a light mow removes most of the burn making the lawn instantly greener. The best method to keep

Empire greener in winter though, is to mow it short from early autumn, and keep it like that. A combination of autumn and winter fertilising, and a shortly mown Empire will provide good winter colour, particularly for NSW and Queensland. To improve winter colour and general health of Empire, it is recommended to dethatch the lawn every second or third spring. Around the end of August in Queensland or Sydney, or early September in cooler areas like Melbourne dethatch the lawn. The easiest method is to simply mow the lawn very short, and collect the clippings. Another method is to hire a dethatching machine, or simply lightly top dress the lawn. Watering Watering your Empire lawn in a dry winter can also improve its winter colour. If the ground or lawn is very dry, frosts have a habit of burning the lawn more. Watering after fertilising also helps activate the slow release fertiliser. In the warmer months water when the leaf starts to dry out. It is better to apply heavy deep watering. If you get water on soon after the leaf starts to shrivel, it will quickly green up. If water restrictions prevent you from watering, do not panic if the lawn is at least one year old. Due to its deep rhizomes, a mature Empire lawn can withstand long periods of drought without dying. It will brown off and go dormant but when it rains again or it is irrigated it will generally reshoot well and green up. If you live in desert regions or places like Perth with little summer rain, some top up watering is required to keep Empire alive. Firstly a healthy dense Empire lawn will resist many weed types. If a few weeds do invade you can simply hand weed them. If it is a greater weed problem, Empire is more tolerant to chemicals than most lawn types. The following are some types of chemicals that can be used. These Chemicals have different labels in each state or in each country where Empire is sold, so check label rates and details. Some of these chemicals are available in garden centres, whilst others are mainly available to weed control professionals. Chemicals that can be used on Empire Zoysia. For most broadleaf weeds flat weeds. Domestic and Professional To kill Nut grass and other sedges use Sempra. Professional For a combination of some grass weeds and some broadleaf weeds try Monument. Pests and Diseases Empire is far less susceptible to lawn grub attack than Buffalo, Couch, and Kikuyu, however damage can occasionally occur. If you see insect damage, treat accordingly. Usually this will be the case, but if they in the unlikely event do start eating it down, use Baythroid Lawn Grub and Garden Insecticide. In Queensland occasionally like some other turf types Empire can get Mealy Bug. Brown patches occur with a milky residue. This will also control black beetle, which also are less likely to prefer Empire to other lawns, and actually rarely cause damage in Empire. We have after many years yet to see any fungus or diseases on Empire on the East Coast of Australia that affect other lawns. If you do see any please let us know, as we always strive to help customers who use Empire have the knowledge to look after their lawn in the best way possible. I also acknowledge that the highest quality lawns which Todd Layt promotes through Ozbreed are advertised on The Lawn Guide.

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Lawn Grubs Video controlling lawn grubs becomes easy with this quick video Lawn Mowing Tips how to increase lawn mowing quality with less effort Laying A New Lawn preparing soil and the process of laying a new roll-on lawn Weed Control how to control lawn weeds - with the least amount of effort Water and Fertiliser properly watering and fertilising lawns for greatest benefit Lawn Blogs Lawn Care Blog broader lawn care discussions about lawn care, lawn care industry and turf industry Lawn Expert Blog expert lawn care advice from guest writer Todd Layt, breeder of Sapphire soft leaf buffalo Search They do not like weed and feed products. Weed and feed products have high rates of soluble nitrogen fertiliser that quickly leach into the soil. They not only disappear quickly often washed into drains and storm water , they also do very little for your lawns health. They simply encourage upward leaf growth and provide a quick green up. Weed and feed products do little to help your lawns roots, stolons and rhizomes. They can also cause damage to soil and the micro-organisms in the soil. The weed and feed products that work by burning flat broad leaf weeds cannot be watered in for a while. On hot days they will also burn your lawn. They have little long term nutrient benefit for your lawn. The weed and feeds with chemicals will usually hurt Buffalo turf, and are highly inefficient. These products kill weeds less efficiently than dedicated weed killers. You also end up spreading the weed and feed all over the lawn, rather than just killing the weeds that need killing. In fact, it has been reported that Canada is banning these type of weed and feed products. Australia probably will not go this far, but if people avoid these, maybe the companies will concentrate on their better products. Instead of using weed and feed, it is better to buy 2 products. Slow Release Fertiliser and a good herbicide. To control the broad leaf weeds use and appropriate herbicide. The iron has a salt burn effect so that flatweeds receive a relatively severe burn compared to the vertical blades of grass. We recommend using a separate fertiliser and weed killer, rather than this weed and feed. Your lawn will thank you for it. Brunnings also have good products for your lawn, this is just not one of them. Firstly, it cannot be used on Buffalo lawns plus a few other types which really limits its use. The only positive is that the fertiliser component itself is a good slow release fertiliser. Using 2 separate products when it comes to killing and making things grow still makes so much more sense. They are a little more expensive, but in car terms the price is like comparing a Great Wall to a Toyota. Slow release fertilisers take months to discharge their nutrients, meaning your lawn is fed for a lot longer from a single application. Full slow release fertilisers do not burn your lawn if they are not watered in immediately. Be careful when buying slow release fertilisers, as some suppliers blend slow release with regular quick release fertiliser, and say "contains slow release" or "slow release fertiliser blend" or some other euphemistic saying. So read the reviews to find the real slow release fertilisers. Avoid regular soluble or quick release fertilisers, as they are usually washed out of your lawn within a week, and much of it can go down the drain, causing pollution. As the author states, all these companies make some wonderful lawn care products, and The Lawn Guide agrees that some of the other products these companies manufacture are better suited to achieve better outcomes in lawn care and weed control. I also acknowledge that the highest quality lawns which Todd Layt promotes through Ozbreed are advertised on The Lawn Guide.

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### 4: Recipe For Maintaining Empire Zoysia Turf - The Lawn Guide

*The New Lawn Expert [D.G. Hessayon] on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. The*

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