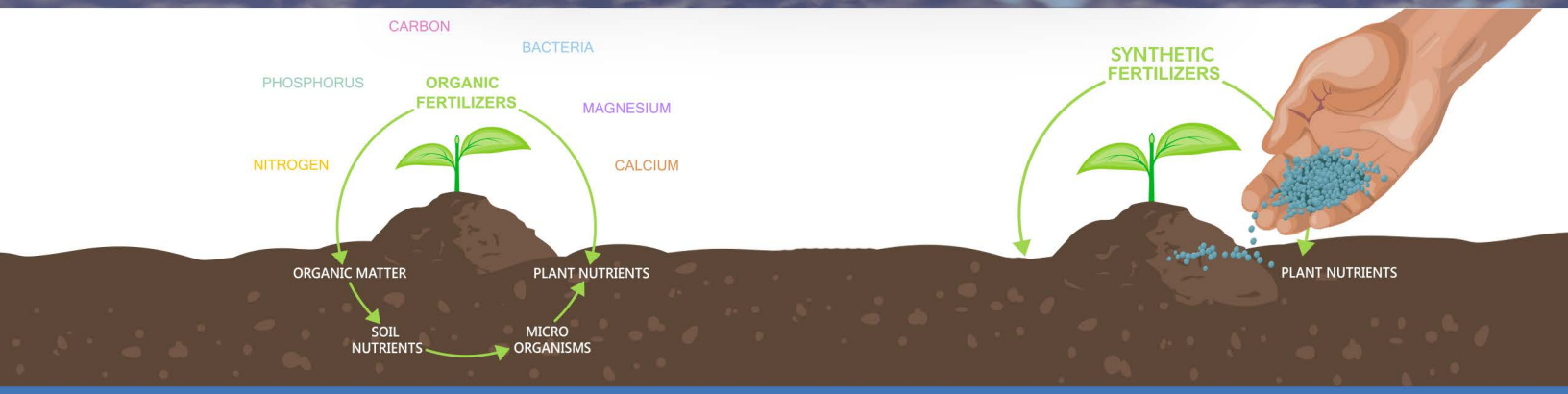
Fertilizers



Quality	Organic	vs.	Synthetic
Ease of Application	May take extra effort to distribute over large areas No harm from over application		Over application can cause lawns to burn
Nutrients	Nutrients can fluctuate Lower nutrient values		Quick release (readily available, water-soluable) Blends can be formulated for specific needs High nutrient concentrations may build in the soil, which may lead to leaching & run-off
Rate of Nutrient Release	Long-term solution Requires fewer applications, which means less work over time Promotes stronger root growth for disease & insect resistance Reliant on soil temperature, cool soil = slower release rate, effects rate plants take up nutrients Poor quality soils = may delay results		Short-term solution Many forms available: pellets, granules, liquid, tablets, spikes and controlled-release Requires more applications Results in 1-2 weeks
Impact on Soil	Provides organic material that decomposes for rich and fertile soil results Improves soil texture		May decrease soil fertility due to chemical nitrogen stimulating excessive microorganism growth which, over time, depletes organic matter in the soil

WHAT DO FERTILIZER NUMBERS MEAN?

A common way of describing the purpose behind each chemical is to think "**UP**, **DOWN**, & **ALL AROUND**."

Sprinkler Warehouse carries a large selection of fertilizers for every lawn's needs.

N — NITROGEN

- Helps with plant growth ABOVE ground
- Promoting growth of foliage
- Produce lush green lawns

UP

P — PHOSPHORUS

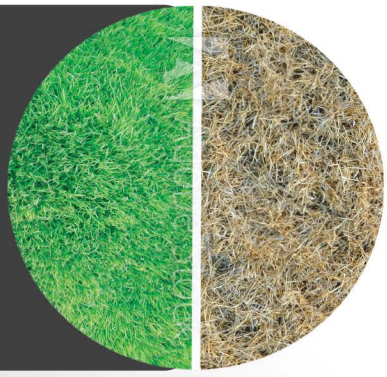
- Establishing growth BELOW ground
- Root health
- Flower/Bloom production

DOWN

K — POTASSIUM

- Overall plant health
- Winterizing
- Helps disease resistance

ALL AROUND



SprinklerWarehouse.com

Reasons to Fertilize

PROS
FERTILIZING

- **Encourages growth & recovery** from turf damage

- **Requires fewer pesticides**

- **Better tolerate stresses** - heat, drought, cold

- **Maintains density**

- **Plant Vigor**

CONS
NOT FERTILIZING

- **Undesirable grasses** (Crabgrass & Broadleaf)

- **Prone to damage** from diseases and insects

- **Lawns will gradually lose density**

- **Recovery takes longer**

- **Risk of soil erosion** increases

When to Fertilize?

MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB

SPRING
Fertilize

SUMMER
Fertilize

FALL
Don't Fertilize

WINTER
Don't Fertilize

WARM SEASON GRASSES

- Bermuda grass

- St. Augustine

- Centipede grass

- Zoysia grass

- Carpet grass

GENERAL RECOMMENDATION

• Wait 5-7 weeks between fertilizer & control product applications to avoid burning your lawn

• Water in products after application to activate & reduce product loss due to volatilization

• Annual N (nitrogen) requirements vary depending on turfgrass species, growing enviornment, appearance expectations, & traffic

General recommendation: fertilize every 6-8 weeks, but fertilizers with slow-release of nitrogen can last up to 3 months

TIPS

• Mature lawns (fertilized for more than 10 yrs) = don't need much N

• Established lawns= N has the most impact on

• New lawns= Need P & K for strong root & stem growth

• Apply lower rates of fertilizer more frequently (such as 0.5 pound of actual N per 1,000 square feet every 21 days) this will provide more consistent color & growth responses than less frequent applications at higher rates

• Only apply fertilizers to actively growing turf

• Do not apply fertilizer to severly drought-stressed turf

When to Fertilize?

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SPRING — Fertilize

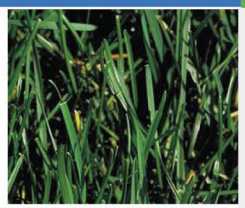
SUMMER — Don't Fertilize

FALL — Fertilize

WINTER — Don't Fertilize

COOL SEASON GRASSES

- Kentucky Bluegrass



- Fescue grass

- Bentgrass

- Ryegrass

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