Garden Q & A

Stephen H. Brown

Topic: Cool Season Lawn Fertilization

Question: What kind of fertilizer should be used now on St. Augustine?
   - Lynn, south Lee County

Answer: St. Augustine grass is now going through a period of slow growth. You may have noticed that the need to mow the lawn has dropped significantly from once a week to no more than twice a month. Slower metabolism also means less frequent irrigations and fewer fertilizer applications. For moderately to highly maintained lawns, a complete fertilizer, such as 16-4-8, 8-0-10 or 6-6-6, can be applied in November but not again until February. For minimally maintained lawns, one can refrain from fertilizer application until March. Instructions on the amount to apply will be on the label.

Useful Links
Lawn and Turfgrass Fertilization
Stephen's Webpage

Stephen Brown is a horticulture agent with the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the horticulture desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by brownsh@leegov.com.
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