



Annual Blue Grass

Annual Blue grass can be a nuisance in home lawns, although it is most notably a problem in golf course greens. Annual Bluegrass is a low growing, light green grass that has many seed heads, especially in May and June. One of the challenges of Annual Bluegrass is that it germinates in the fall and the spring and although its name leads you to believe it is an annual, it can also be a perennial, living year after year. Annual Bluegrass takes advantage of thin areas of grass, such as along gravel driveways, bed areas, but can also invade healthy areas of the lawn.



How to Prevent Annual Bluegrass?

Prevention is the first line of defense in winning the war on Annual Bluegrass. There are two ways to prevent Annual Bluegrass.

- 1 Keep your grass thick and healthy.** Thick healthy grass competes against Annual Blue Grass. The best way to do this is through proper mowing, watering during dry spells/drought, fertilizing and over seeding/slit seeding bare and thin areas.
- 2 Consider applying a fall pre-emergent** for Annual Bluegrass in addition to the normal spring application. This is very effective, but has its limitations with weather. Excessive rain and even drought can cause failure.



What if I Get Annual Bluegrass After Prevention Efforts?

Even the best efforts can be spoiled by weather conditions. Excessive rains through spring can break down the protective barrier and very dry conditions can cause the ground to crack allowing an unprotected spot for Annual Bluegrass to germinate.



The solution to Annual Bluegrass is to remove it from the yard and replant those areas with desirable seed. The most effective way to remove Annual Bluegrass is to treat it with a product containing **Glyphosate such as Round Up**. For best results, treat the Annual Bluegrass while it is green and actively growing so it will completely kill the undesirable grass. **Wait seven to ten days and reseed** the area with desirable turf mixtures. Be cautious to keep Round Up off desirable turf, as it will kill it.



Alternative Removal Treatment:

If Annual Blue Grass invades an entire lawn, another option is to remove it without killing all of the grass, as explained above, with a specialty herbicide. These treatments can be more expensive than killing the area and reseeding.



The results will vary and the lawn will need to be treated 2 times in the fall, to remove the Annual Bluegrass and may need to be repeat the following fall. **Please call our office for pricing on the treatment.**



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