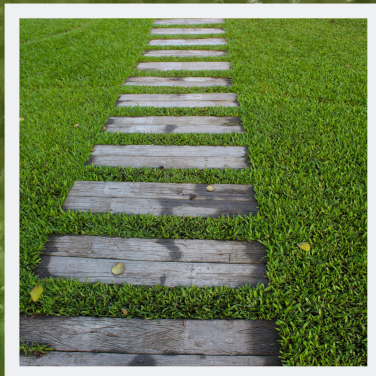


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# LAWN CARE & MAINTENANCE AUSTRALIA *Magazine*

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## THIS ISSUE

- SIX STEPS TO MAINTAINING AN ESTABLISHED LAWN
- LAWN CORING & WHY?
- SCALPING YOUR LAWN

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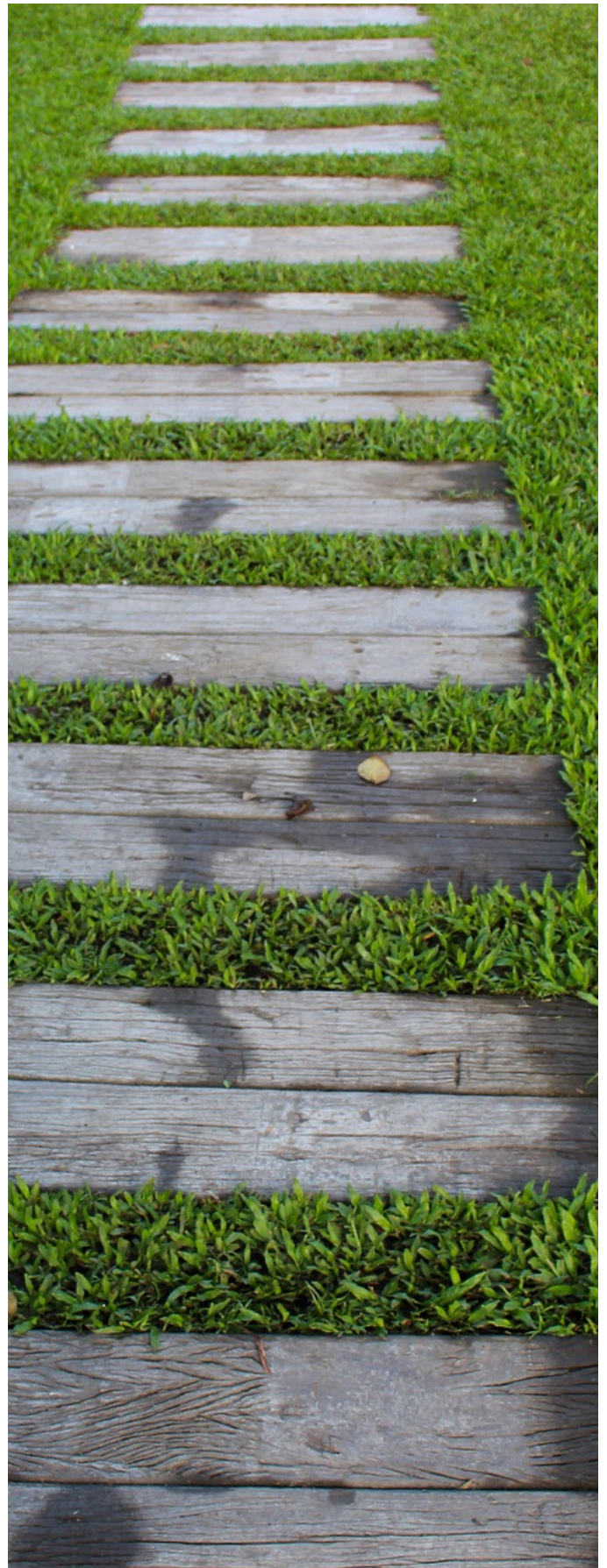




# SIX STEPS TO MAINTAINING AN ESTABLISHED LAWN

## **The first tip to Maintaining an Established Lawn is:**

1. Water occasionally but deeply. Deep roots keep your lawn healthy and lush.
2. Let your lawn grow dormant (optional)  
Many grass species survive hot, dry summers by going dormant.
3. Mow at the highest setting on your mower. Cutting grass to a tall height (around 8.9 to 10.2 cm or 3 ½ to 4 inches) is important for lawn health, especially during summer heat.
4. Choose a fertilizer. The three numbers on the fertilizer bag tell you the percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, in that order. Nitrogen is the most important for your lawn and should be higher than the other two (a 3:1:2 ratio is ideal). Avoid numbers higher than 10, since these can easily burn your lawn.
5. Fertilize your lawn. A drop spreader works best for small lawns. A broadcast (rotary) spreader saves time when fertilizing large lawns. If you want the perfect lawn, you may fertilize three or four times per growing season.
6. Aerate your yard in autumn or spring. Annual de-thatching and aeration is very important for the health of your lawn. ▪  
Aerate while the soil is on the dry side, but just wet enough to allow the tines to penetrate.





# LAWN CORING & WHY?

**Lawn coring** is relatively simple: The most popular and most effective method of aerating lawns for homeowners is to use a lawn coring machine. As the lawn corer moves over the lawn, it will punch holes into the lawn and soil with its hollow tines, and as the tynes pull-out of the soil they remove plugs of soil, thatch and lawn, leaving open holes in the lawns surface.

**WHY:** Aeration is good if you've got compacted, poor or clay-heavy soil. Roots require oxygen to grow and absorb nutrients and water. Coring aids in oxygen and water reaching the roots. It is also an opportunity to introduce Wetting Agents and a Quality Lawn Fertiliser. If you have a clay-based soil, then the perfect time to add some Gypsum Clay Breaker.

## SCALPING YOUR LAWN

Scalping a lawn means mowing it on a very low setting. Scalping can eliminate built-up thatch, protect against lawn diseases, is done in preparation for lawn aeration. And it can help your soil get more sunlight, which can be beneficial to lawn growth. Be aware, it can deplete the grass's energy reserves, weakening or killing grass and leaving the lawn vulnerable to weed invasion. Check with your local expert.



**Allows water, oxygen and nutrients into the root zone**

