

## Types of Lawn Grass for Central Texas

Bermuda  
Buffalo  
Zoysia  
St. Augustine

### **Bermuda Grass:**

High traffic tolerant	Mow every 3-7 days @ 1-1.5" height
Drought tolerant	Reel mowers produce best cut
Fine leaf texture	Does not grow well in shade
Grows best in well drained sites	Relatively high fertilizer requirement
Water requirements increase with increase levels of maintenance	
Grows best under extended periods of high temperature, mild winters and moderate to high rainfall	

### **Pests:**

Feed on roots:	White Grubs, Mole Crickets and Ground Pearls
Foliage:	Armyworms, Cutworms and Sod Webworms
	Can be controlled by biological and chemical methods
Diseases:	Dollar Spot, Leaf Spot, Brown Patch and Take-All Root Rot
	Can be controlled by fungicides
Weeds:	Clover, Chickweed, Dandelion, Henbit, Dichondra
	Control with hormone herbicides such as 2, 4-D, MCPP, Dicamba or Bromozynil
	Crabgrass, Dallisgrass and Goosegrass
	Control with a few applications of MSMA or pre-emergence herbicides

### **Buffalo Grass:**

High cold tolerance	Not shade nor traffic tolerant
Low disease potential	Low salinity tolerance
Fine leaf texture	Mow every 7-14 days @ 1-3" height
Low fertilizer requirement	Used for pasture and erosion control
Seldom grows taller than 5"	Highly drought resistant
Favors heavy clay soils	Best for low rainfall areas
Good for sites to be planted with wildflowers	Low maintenance

## **Zoysiagrass**

Drought tolerant

Water requirements similar to Bermuda

Needs occasional thatch removal

Requires well drained soils

Mowed every 5-7 days @ 1-2" height

Lives in all kinds of soils

### **Pests:**

Diseases: Brownpatch, Rust and Leaf Spot diseases

Usually recover when environmental conditions change

Insects: White Grubs

More than 4 per square foot, then use insecticides

## **St. Augustine**

High shade tolerant

Tolerates wide range of soil types

Coarse leaf texture

Low traffic tolerance

Mow every 5-7 days @ 2.5-3.5"

Low cold tolerance

### **Pests:**

Insects: Chinch Bugs and White Grubs

Control with insecticides

Sod Webworms, Armyworms and Cutworms

Control with insecticides or bioworm control

Diseases: St. Augustine Decline (virus)

No chemical control, only resistant varieties of St. Augustine

Brownpatch, Gray Leaf Spot, Rust and Take-All Root Rot

Controlled by fungicide

Weeds: Henbit, Chickweed and Clover

Controlled by non-selective contact herbicides while grass is dormant or hormone-type herbicides in early spring

Fescue, Annual Bluegrass and Crabgrass

Controlled by pre-emergence herbicide

Dallisgrass and Bermudagrass

Difficult to control