

351 Azalea Lane
Louisville, KY 40201

October 23, 2015

Mrs. Pamela Phelps
Horticulture Specialist
Kentucky Extension Service
232 Pineview Road
Louisville, KY 40201

Dear Mrs. Phelps:

I have recently purchased a home that I have refurbished on the inside. Now that the work is completed, I am looking to improve the lawn before I do anything about the shrub material.

The lawn shows signs of neglect in that the grass is very thin, has some undesirable weeds in it and even has bare spots. During the refurbishing of the home, it was necessary for delivery trucks to drive over the lawn and I am sure this did not help the lawn in any way. Can this lawn be improved by fertilization or do I need to simply start all over? If I start over, what lawn grass would you recommend?

I would like some ideas from you on how to proceed to make the lawn have an appropriate appearance. I would also like to perform most of the work myself and don't have experience in establishing a lawn. Any suggestions you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Frank Smith

You are an Extension Agent, located in Louisville, Kentucky, responsible for urban landscape education. Based on the limited information provided by Mr. Smith, you have determined that in order to establish a nice appearing lawn, the following procedures need to be accomplished:

- Soil samples need to be taken. The Extension Office has soil sample containers available for taking samples. The cost of testing each sample in Kentucky for the homeowner is \$7.00. The result of your soil sample will be emailed to you in approximately 2 weeks by the University of Kentucky and will tell the client specifically what nutrients are needed.
- Invite them to come by your office and pick up containers. When the containers are picked up, someone in the Extension office will explain to the client how to take the samples. The soil sample should be returned to the Extension Office and payment made at that time. The best lawn grass to use in the Louisville area is cultivars of Kentucky Blue Grass. While the client is in your office, discuss a time when the Extension Agent could come by and look at the lawn once the soil test results have been received. We will discuss at that time the specie of lawn to use.
- If the Extension Agent should happen to be out of the office when the boxes are picked up, the client should call - 502-343-6201 to schedule a convenient time for a visit.
- The lawn should not be fertilized until the client has heard from the soil samples which will take approximately 2 weeks.