Poa Annua Prevention Guide

How To Prevent Poa Annua Grass From Growing

By DoMyOwn staff

OVERVIEW

Poa annua, also known as annual bluegrass, can be difficult to control and completely eradicate from your yard, as seeds can lie dormant for years.

However, there are several steps you can take to prevent poa annua from overtaking your lawn, which include:

- Applying Pre-Emergent Herbicides
- Fixing Soil Issues

STEP 1 Apply Pre-Emergent Herbicides

As mentioned in our How to Get Rid of Poa Annuaguide, applying a fall pre-emergent herbicide application and a spring pre-emergent herbicide application is the best way to prevent poa annua from growing in your lawn during the spring and summer. The pre-emergent herbicide will penetrate the top layer of soil, preventing poa annua seeds from germinating.

Consult our lawn care schedules to determine when to apply your pre-emergent herbicide treatments. Depending on where you live and what your local climate is like, you could apply your spring treatment in February or March and your fall treatment in September or November. Fall applications should be applied when soil temperatures are below 70 degrees but before the first frost of the season. Spring applications should be applied as the weather warms but before soil temperatures reach 55 degrees.

Pre-emergents should not be applied when the lawn is being seeded or sodded as the pre-emergent will prevent the germination of the new, desirable grass seed.

Watch the video below to learn how to apply a pre-emergent herbicide to your yard.

Video Instructions

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aiuy7q2Y3bs

Be sure to read the label of your pre-emergent herbicide to make sure it is compatible with your turf/grass type. Not all pre-emergent herbicides can be used in all grasses.

Products needed for Step 1

Hi-Yield Weed and Grass Stopper with Dimension Herbicide - 28 lb
On Sale!
$57.59
Was: ~~$63.99~~
★★★★½ (116)

STEP 2 Fix Soil Issues

Poa annua thrives in moist and compact soil. By removing these conditions in your yard, in addition to applying a pre-emergent herbicide treatment, you will reduce the amount of poa annua that will grow. Removing these conditions will also help create and maintain a strong and healthy turf.

- Prevent moist soil by watering your lawn sparingly, only as needed.
- Avoid overwatering in shaded areas of your lawn. Without the sun to dry the moisture, disease, fungus, and weeds will flourish.
- Aerate your lawn to loosen the soil. Perform a core aeration before poa annua begins to germinate, in the early fall, and before you apply a pre-emergent herbicide. Watch the video below to learn how to aerate your lawn.

Video Instructions

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2c19dJ6pKf8

We hope you found this guide helpful. If you are not sure if you have poa annua in your yard, read our guide on what poa annua looks like to make a positive identification and our guide onwhere poa annua grows to better inform your treatment plan. Our how to get rid of poa annuaguide will walk you through both pre- and post-emergent herbicide treatments.