

Lawn Grasses for Bexar County

Condition	Type of Grass			
	St. Augustine	Bermuda	Zoysia	Buffalo
Shade Tolerance	Yes Dappled shade but full sun is best	No Full sun is best	Yes Shade <u>tolerant</u>	No Poor shade tolerance
Traffic	Yes Moderate tolerance	Yes Tolerates traffic well	No Minimal tolerance	No Does <u>NOT</u> tolerate traffic
Water Requirements	¾ inch per week for growth	½ inch or less per week to stay green	¾ inch per week to stay green	1 inch per <u>month</u> to stay green.
Drought Tolerant	No ½ inches per 2-3 weeks if dormant	Yes Almost no water if dormant	Yes ½ inch or less per 2-3 weeks if dormant	Yes Almost no water if dormant
Low Mowing/ Maintenance	No Mow every 5-6 days.	No Gets thicker with frequent mowing	Yes Best with reel-type mower—can tolerate rotary if weekly	Yes Once per month <u>if needed</u>
Low Initial Cost	Yes Sod or plugs. Grows quickly by stolons.	Yes Seed or sod. Creeping growth habit.	No Sod. El Toro fairly fast growing, Jamur is slow.	Yes Sod or plugs. Thin sod but spreads quickly.
“Carpet” Turf Appearance	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Tufted or lumpy
Pest-resistant	No Brown patch Chinch bugs	Yes	Yes May see rust in fall	Yes Goes dormant. Likes heavy soil. Weeds can invade.
Mower Setting	3 inches 4 inches in hot summer	1 ½ inches Reel-type mower is best	2 inches Reel-type mower is best, rotary tolerated	4 inches Looks best at 4-5 inches
Mow when or before this height	4 ½ inches	2 ¼ inches	3 inches	6 inches

The source for this GVST Gardening Guide is Dr. Tom Harris, GVST Volunteer and Master Gardener. Tom also writes a weekly gardening column for the Boerne Star Newspaper. Find this and more Gardening Guides on the GVST website at: www.gardeningvolunteers.org