Turfgrass Establishment

Prepare a good seed or sod bed

Establishment Preparation

- soil test
- control perennial weeds
- remove trash rocks
- install drains, swayles,irrigation etc.
- develop topsoil (lime,fert.,O.M.)
- develop seedbed
  (level, roll & rake or drag)
- seed or vegetative planting

Install irrigation before planting

Establishment by Seed

- choice of grass:
  ...cool season vs warm
  ...mixture vs blend
  ...seed quality
- Broadcast or drill
- Cultipack or roll
- Netting if desired
- Irrigate (lightly & frequent)

SEEDING

Seed Tag Information:
species, cultivar, purity, % germination, weed content, test date, Lot number

Try to purchase seed that has at least 90% seed purity, and germination of 85% or higher.

Pure Live Seed = percent pure seed x percent germination

Seed in two directions at right angles ,or with 50% overlap.

Small seed like centipegrass and bermudagrass may need to be mixed with a carrier

Mulch & or roll / cultipak.

Keep seedbed moist during germination and seedling growth

Get good seed/soil contact; notice better take in tire tracks !

Vegetative Establishment

- solid sodding
- plugging / strip plug
- sprigging / stolonizing

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- disk or cultipack
- topdress & roll
- irrigate immediately

Pallet distribution cuts work

Lay sod tight in ‘brick-like’ pattern

Cut into plugs or 3”strips

Plugged lawn.

Consider solid sodding in shaded areas.

True sprigs should have some roots

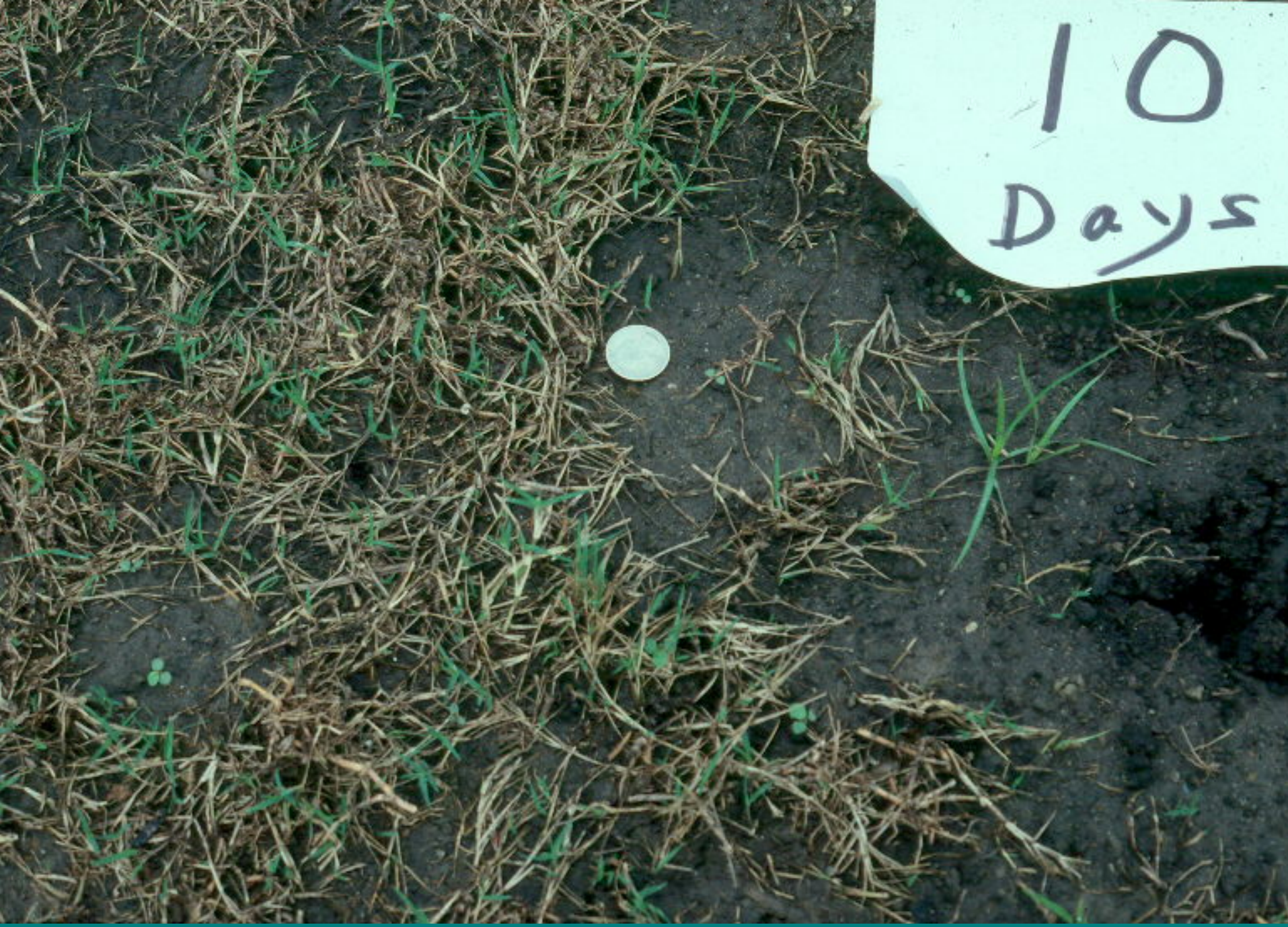
Bag of sprigs

Distribute sprigs evenly

Press/Cut sprigs in

Sprigs pressed/disked in = sprigs planted

Water ASAP ; within 2 hours of planting



After 10 days, what's brown is dead.

Basic Turf Care is:

- Fertilizing properly
- Watering properly
- Mowing properly
  - pest management is step two

The End