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*Visit our Website & Blog for lots of Information*

**[www.redhenturf.com](http://www.redhenturf.com)**

In season hours are approximately

April—November

Monday—Friday 7:30am-4:00pm (EST)

Select Saturdays 7:30am—11:30am (EST)

Please see our website for detailed hours and holiday closings.

Off season hours may vary and run from approximately

December—March

Monday—Friday 8:00am-4:00pm (EST)

**THANK YOU!**

Congratulations and

thank you for choosing

**RED HEN TURF FARM.**

We hope you find this Guide and our website helpful, and remember, if you EVER have any questions or concerns, give us a call.

**We're here to help!**

## Top 5 Things to Know About Seeding

**Because we plant seeds that become sod, we know how much time and work it can take to grow tender seeds into a thick lawn.**

**Here are some points to ponder before you choose to sod or grow your lawn from seed or hydroseed:**

1. Seed will take a year to pass the sock test. It will take a year or more until seed will cover the ground enough that you can walk on it with white socks and not get in dirt. That is a whole year kids and pets will track dirt into the house.
2. Timing is everything. In Northern Indiana, the best change of seeding success occurs when seed is planted between Aug 15th—Sept 15th. This window will allow the seed to establish a strong enough root system, which will withstand the freezing temperatures of winter. During a typical year, planting after Sept 15th, will still leave opportunity for temperatures to allow for seed germination, but now allow for the root system to have enough time to really get established. What if we are outside the window? Does this mean we have to wait a whole year to plant? It doesn't. The second optimal time to plant seed would be after Thanksgiving through early March, when there are still nightly freeze cycles. Planting during this time is called a "dormant" seeding. The idea is to get the seed down when the temperatures will allow for germination, approx. 58°F for KBG. As the ground freezes & thaws, Mother nature will "plant" the seed into the soil for you. When temperatures are right, the seed will begin to germinate. Dormant seeding is preferred over spring seeding, for a couple of different reasons. Dormant seeding is easier, it doesn't require any type of mechanical cultivation to get good contact with the soil. Having the seed already down when spring arrives, will allow the seed to germinate a few weeks earlier. This head start, will allow the seed to have a stronger, established root system to battle the hot summer temperatures. The most challenging time of year to plant seed is what we have referred to as a "Spring" seeding. Seed can be planted in April & May, but a March seeding date will allow more time for a root development before the summer. Be cautious of the "April Showers." Although they bring out the May flowers, they have the ability to wash away seed before it has the chance to germinate.
3. It is very hard to establish turf on poor soils. Subsoils and sandy soils usually don't possess the nutrients or water holding capacity to germinate and sustain growth, even if a sprinkler system is present.
4. Slopes can kill you. The steeper the slope, the more likely erosion will occur, especially around down spouts. Deep gulleys can form and soil will wash into the street. These problems are worse if you are unlucky to seed at the beginning of a rainy period. Fewer seeding companies are repairing washouts without expensive extended care costs.
5. It's frustrating and a lot of work. You won't find an exact schedule for growing a lawn because you have to work with the weather Mother Nature gives you. It is tough to know when to apply fertilizers and herbicides, and even more expensive if you use a lawn service.



*Last Revised: 2/23/23*

**[www.redhenturf.com](http://www.redhenturf.com)**

**Guarantee:** Red Hen Sod is guaranteed to be in good growing condition at the time of sale; after that, it is your responsibility. If the sod is not watered properly, it will not grow. Call us immediately at the time of sale if the sod is anything but healthy, and we will give the matter our prompt attention.

You must call within first 24 hours, if there are any issues with the sod.