

# Good Lawn Products

## Seed mixes

Use drought tolerant species such as Creeping Red Fescue, Tall Fescue and Ryegrass. Kentucky bluegrass has a short root system and requires more nutrients and water for vigour, so no more than 10% Kentucky blue grass is recommended. If you can find some with at least 5% clover all the better as clover fixes atmospheric nitrogen to the soil and naturally feeds the grass.

1. Micro Clover Blend is sold by retailers such as Home Depot and Canadian Tire.



This premium blend includes MicroClover that creates nitrogen to naturally feed your lawn. Performs well in sunny and shady areas and requires less maintenance and watering.

Blend:  
45% Perennial Ryegrass  
40% Creeping Red Fescue  
10% Kentucky Bluegrass  
5% Clover

McKenzie also has a Shady Blend lawn seed mix.



2. **Hannas Seeds** [www.hannasseeds.com](http://www.hannasseeds.com) is a retailer, wholesaler, and exporter of alfalfa, clover and grass seeds, as well as several forage, lawn, pasture, and native grass mixtures.

Located in central Alberta, Hannas Seeds provides the best quality, highest-yielding forage and turf seed at the most competitive prices. - See more at: <http://www.hannasseeds.com/#sthash.P75VuBQf.dpuf>

5039-49 St, Lacombe, Alberta  
Phone: 403-782-6671  
Toll Free: 800-661-1529

The PLWA is looking into the possibility of having seed mix made up for the Pigeon Lake watershed.

## Compost & Organic Fertilizers

Residents in the Pigeon Lake watershed use a wide range of “organics”. Improperly processed organic fertilizers may contain pathogens from plant or animal matter that could be harmful to humans or plants. Further investigation into some types is on-going.

The recommended products are typically pellet type packaged products and/or composts derived from natural sources (plants and animals).

### Composts

Ideally, people would use the nutrients already in the watershed. A mix of brown (leaves, etc ) plus greens (from the kitchen) make the best compost. A page on composting will be developed to help ensure that proper composting is achieved.

**Organic fertilizers** are much better than synthetic fertilizers, as they promote self-sustaining soils, helping the interconnected system of micro-organisms in the soil beneath the plants.

Organic products tend to be much better for the soil than synthetic fertilizers. It is not known whether or not, if more than is needed is used, whether it too, moves through the soil into the lake. However, the amount of nutrients is significantly less than synthetic fertilizers.

The PLWMP Cosmetic Fertilizer & Soil Management Committee consulted with soil specialists **Tim and Susan Penstone**, owners of **EnviroPerfect Solutions** about promoting **The Soil Food Web** and on healthy alternatives for the watershed.

They told us: “It is soil beneath the surface keep the plants above looking great and thriving. With proper root structure, proper bacteria and fungi, and other organisms, plants can receive most of the nutrients from the soil. These organisms work symbiotically with the plant to convert organic materials to inorganic ones that the plant can readily use.

This symbiotic relationship also encourages the roots to go deeper to obtain food and water making the plant more drought-tolerant in the hot dry summer. Left on its own, the natural evolution of the soil supports and nurtures the plants growing in that particular ecosystem.”

**Below is the information and products that if you have to fertilize are probably amongst the best. For lawn areas that need help to become self-sustaining use:**

- 1. EnviroPerfect Solutions - EPS Organic 9-3-3 Plus Granular Fertilizer:** 100% ORGANIC All Natural – child & pet safe.

This organic granular fertilizer ‘holds’ its nutrients until the turf is ready to use them, reducing the frequency of fertilizing.

Total Nitrogen (N).....	9.0%	Iron (Fe).....	1.0%
Water Insoluble Nitrogen (N).....	5.8%	Sulphur (S).....	0.9%
Available Phosphoric Acid (P2O5).....	3.0%	Magnesium (Mg).....	0.9%
Soluble Potash (K2O).....	3.0%	Humic Acid.....	10%
Calcium (Ca).....	0.9%	Organic Matter.....	50.0%

Available in 20Kg (44 lbs) from EnviroPerfect Solutions - to order contact: 780-994-4743 / 1-877-377-4769 [info@enviropertsolutions.com](mailto:info@enviropertsolutions.com)

Also the Head Gardener of the City of Red Deer – **Joe Pelz, will make available 5 and 10 lb pails.** He has been using it on the Red Deer City Hall lawns and swears by it. Place an order with him by: Email: [jjpelz@telus.net](mailto:jjpelz@telus.net) or Phone: 587-876-5539. 24 Munro Cres, Red Deer. (Head east on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, across 40<sup>th</sup> Ave, take the 2<sup>nd</sup> left)

- Another product is **Natura's All Season Lawn Fertilizer** (8.2.3) found in places such as Home Hardware.

### 7kg 8-2-3 All Season Lawn Fertilizer

NATURA Item #5024-154 Model #ORGNIC 7KG



- Other healthy soil product are **Gaian Green's Turf & Lawn Blend** (6.2.3) and the **All Purpose Fertilizer** (4.4.4). Find all the locations it can be bought at this link [www.gaiagreen.com/alberta.html](http://www.gaiagreen.com/alberta.html)



- EnviroPerfect Solutions' Humics** products are naturally occurring rich in humified organic matter, humic acid, fulvic acid and humin which together are commonly referred to as 'humins' or humics'. Research has indicated humics can be an effective material to increase plant nutrient uptake and root development while improving soil quality and are especially good **for high traffic areas** and compacted lawns.

VIE is available as:

- Powder: applied as a soil amendment. The powder can also be used in custom manufacturing of liquid humic products. 50 lb bags (22.5 kg)
- Granule: applied as a soil amendment. 50 lb bags (22.5 kg)