

James's Tips: MOSS CONTROL



I often get asked about Moss and how to control it, so here are a few tips for you to consider

Every lawn has moss; it's a question of how much is tolerable. Once established it will not naturally go away- it will just get worse until the lawn is completely choked, here are some typical causes:-

- Scalping the lawn by mowing too close or because of a bumpy lawn. Infrequent grass cutting and poor mowing practices.
- Not aerating heavily used or compacted areas.
- Lack of nourishment, leaving bare earth patches – they will always be colonised by moss or weeds.
- Not removing fallen leaves in autumn and not removing excess thatch.
- Poor drainage and poor air circulation (lift those low branches) and prolonged damp wet conditions.

Moss will always be in a lawn it is just how much! So some typical solutions to dramatically reduce it:-

- Aerate the lawn in spring and autumn to assist drainage, relieve compaction and assist absorption of feed.
- Apply ferrous sulphate in spring and autumn to kill the moss. Once dead it should be raked out. If moss carpet is thick - 3cms - it will need scarifying - cutting out, or killing with advanced solutions - Miraclemoss.
- Always seed those bare patches, even small ones, and always sweep up fallen leaves. (Get a petrol blower).
- Feed regularly, moss struggles to establish in a dense healthy, properly cut and maintained lawn.