



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Rebecca Hart or Kelly Marshall  
Intermark Public Relations  
205.326.0200

## DO YOU KNOW THE BEST TIME TO SEED YOUR LAWN?

### Survey Finds Few People Know Correct Answer

Tangent, Ore. -- A recent survey found that less than one-third of those living in the Southeastern United States know the correct time to plant grass seed and an even smaller number are aware of the best time to water a lawn. The survey was commissioned by Barenbrug USA, a grass seed research firm and developer of RTF™, a new type of tall fescue.

Of those surveyed, 70% believed that the spring was the best time to plant grass seed. Particularly in the Southeast, the fall is the optimum time for this gardening activity. "Fall is the best time to seed your lawn because there is a better chance for rain during that time of the year," said Roeland Kapsenberg, president and CEO of Barenbrug USA. "When a seedling is young, it needs consistent watering to develop its root system. The cooler temperatures also make it a more preferred time for planting."

The most important difference with spring planting is the higher soil temperature, ensuring a much quicker germination and establishment. Combined with seasonal cooling down, grass will develop quickly and has a much longer growing season before it gets into summer stress. Compared to the spring seeding, the fall planted grass plants will be much bigger and stronger going into summer.

The survey also found that only 28% of the participants were aware that the early morning hours, before the sun comes up, are the best time for watering a lawn. The majority felt that late evening watering would be most beneficial to the lawn.

Watering before the sun rises allows the water to be absorbed into the soil, keeping the roots and ground moist during the day. Those who water when the sun is out are basically wasting the water which will evaporate in the heat. Additionally, the water droplets left on the ground will act as magnifiers, scorching the blades of grass. Nighttime watering can attract mold, fungus, insects and disease, often destroying a lawn.

RTF, the new tall fescue developed by Barenbrug USA, gives homeowners the lawn they want. This grass seed was designed to fill in bare spots, is resistant to drought. It has a naturally built-in resistance to insects, stays green and lush through stressful winter and summer weather conditions, and is crop and weed free.

Barenbrug USA is an Oregon-based grass seed company. It specializes in plant breeding, seed production and marketing of their superior grass seed varieties. Barenbrug USA is a division of the Barenbrug Group, with headquarters in the Netherlands. Barenbrug has been producing and improving grass varieties through plant breeding since 1904. For additional information, visit their website at [www.barusa.com](http://www.barusa.com) or [www.aboutRTF.com](http://www.aboutRTF.com).

The  
Only  
Seed  
You'll  
Ever  
Need™

33477 HWY 99E  
PO Box 239  
Tangent, OR 97389

541.926.5801 tel  
800.547.4101

541.926.9435 fax

[www.aboutRTF.com](http://www.aboutRTF.com)

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