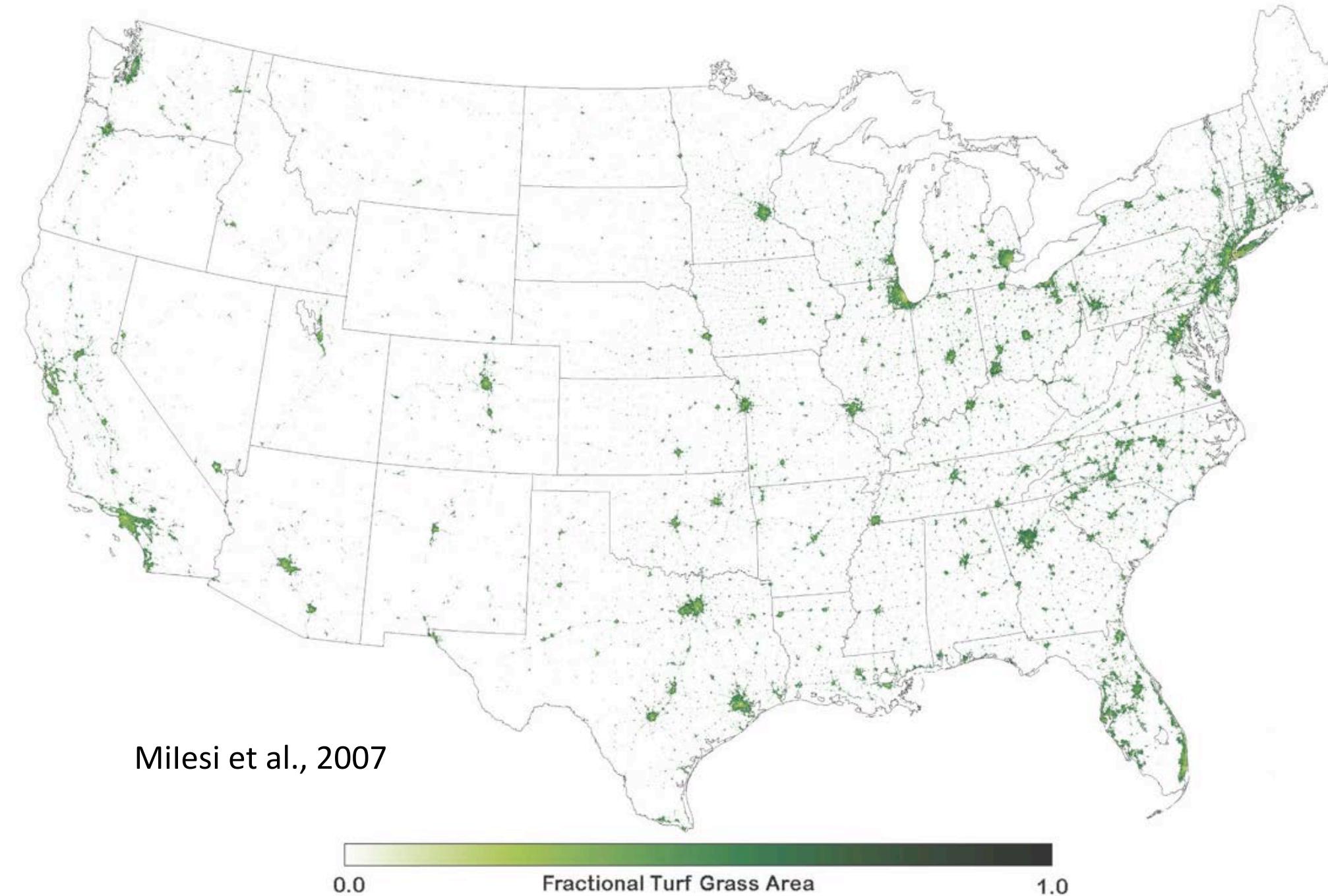


# Cornell Turfgrass Expertise Highlighted in Free iBook

With 40 million acres of lawns in the United States, what we do with our lawns matters.



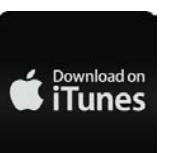
With four times as many people reading ebooks on a typical day in 2011 than in 2009 (Pew Research Center Survey, Rainie, 2012), creating an ebook provides an opportunity to remain current and connected with traditional and new audiences.



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Seven short how-to videos are key features. Additionally, photo galleries, interactive images and concise directions make it quick and easy to understand how to cultivate a healthy lawn that is an attractive environmental asset. Links allow the viewer to easily flip to different section of the book as well as access supplemental web-based resources for more in-depth information and to connect with their local Extension network. Advanced lawn care guidance is also provided, including addressing problem areas and creating a new lawn. Below is a sampling of pages from the book. Go to iTunes to download the iBook for FREE and engage all its features in your iBook app.



### FOUR STEPS TO SUCCESS

- STEP 1: Know Your Lawn
- STEP 2: Make Adjustments
- STEP 3: Do Less
- STEP 4: Use Alternatives For Shade, Popular Paths And Steep Slopes

### STEP 1: Know Your Lawn

In New York and areas with similar growing conditions most lawns contain a mixture of cool-season grasses and weeds. Click on boxes below for details.

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Keep the Mower Blade Sharp. Dull mower blades increase fuel use by up to 20% and shred the tips of grass blades. At the start of the season, consider taking your mower in for a tune up and blade sharpening. Throughout the season, check the appearance of your grass and mower blades. Look to achieve a clean cut on grass blades by sharpening mower blades at least once a season or when you see ragged brown grass blade tips.

Remove Your Mower Blade To Sharpen

Sharpen Your Mower Blade

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Adjust Your Mower Blade Height

Mulch Your Clippings And Leaves

6

### STEP 3: Do Less

- Skip Spring Feed
- Follow The Clump Rule
- Limit Watering
- Mulch Your Clippings And Leaves
- Live with Some Weeds

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### Feeding

A deep, extensive root system helps cool-season grasses build up reserves to get through the winter, green up top growth in spring, and minimize vulnerability to insects, diseases and summer drought. Nutrients released from the soil, grass clippings and late season fertilization (feeding) will promote root growth.

Nitrogen Recommendation

- Fertilizer Label
- Nitrogen Sources
- Soil Testing
- Know the Law

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Lawn grubs feed underground on the roots of grass blades.

European chafer (adult)

Animals dig in lawns to feed grubs.

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Japanese Beetle: Integrated Pest Management Example

Scout Identify Tolerate

JUNE — JULY Egg laying & hatching

AUG SEPT OCT NOV APRIL Larval growth

MAY JUNE Downward migration: hibernation; overwintering grubs

More info: scouting video and grub fact sheet

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Weeds

Plantain

Goosegrass

Broadleaf Perennial

Summer Annual

Annual plants maintain a root system from which new top growth emerges each year. They produce seeds that are stored in the soil and sprout in following years. Winter annuals sprout in the fall and winter then actively grow in spring. Summer annuals sprout in the spring and are killed by frost.

Your Best Defense Against Weeds

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### STARTING FRESH

Wait Before You Renovate. First follow the [four steps to success](#) and evaluate advance care needs. If after 1 or 2 growing seasons your lawn is still weak with more than 50 percent weeds then you might consider the time and resource consuming process of lawn renovation.

- Plan Ahead
- Choose Grass Seed
- Prepare Seedbed
- Plant

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### Choose Cool-Season Grass Seed

Confirm that the cool-season grass seed combination in the seed bag is the best match for your needs. Bags of grass seed are generally a mix of species claiming to target a specific situation. 100% perennial ryegrass seeds sprouts the fastest and should only be used to patch [small bare spots](#). For renovation or new establishment avoid mixes that have more than 20% perennial ryegrass as its seedlings can overwhelm the other species. Also avoid mixes with annual ryegrass which only survive one growing season.

Sunny, lower maintenance (at least 6-8 hrs direct sun)

100% tall fescue blend  
or  
65% fine fescue blend  
15% perennial ryegrass  
20% Kentucky bluegrass blend

Sunny, higher maintenance (at least 6-8 hrs direct sun)

65% Kentucky bluegrass blend  
15% perennial ryegrass  
20% fine fescues

Shade (4-8 hrs direct sun)

100% fine fescue variety blend

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### LOVE A GOOD LAWN

With more than 2.8 million acres of home lawns in New York State, what we do with our lawns matters. By cultivating a dense vigorous lawn you create an attractive environmental asset that will:

- Provide a safe and fun place for outdoor play for people and pets of all ages
- Catch, filter and conserve surface water to reduce runoff of contaminants
- Reduce soil erosion
- Cool surface temperature
- Capture and store carbon
- Filter air pollutants
- Reduce noise pollution
- Increase home selling price

Find more details in [The Benefits of Turf](#).

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