



# Spreader Settings Quick Reference

Verified label settings, SiteOne conversion chart, and the calibration method that actually works

TAPE THIS IN YOUR GARAGE

## Verified Manufacturer Label Settings (From Actual Product Bags)

PRODUCT	RATE (LBS/1K)	N PER 1K	SCOTTS DLX / MINI	SCOTTS DROP	LESCO ROTARY
Scotts Turf Builder Lawn Food (32-0-4)	2.5	0.80 lb N	3 1/2	6 1/2	n/a
Scotts WinterGuard Fall (32-0-10)	2.5	0.80 lb N	2 3/4	6	n/a
Scotts Triple Action Seeding (21-22-4)	4.3	0.90 lb N	4 1/2	7	n/a
Scotts Starter Food (24-25-4)	3.0	0.72 lb N	3 3/4	6	n/a
Scotts Halts Crabgrass (pendimethalin)	2.0	0 N	2 3/4	4 1/2	n/a
Scotts Thick'R Lawn (9-1-1)	10.0	0.90 lb N	9	11	n/a
Milorganite (6-4-0)	12.8	0.77 lb N	11 1/2	n/a	See pro table
Jonathan Green Lawn Food (29-0-3)	3.0	0.87 lb N	6	7	12
JG Crabgrass Prev. (20-0-3)	3.2	0.64 lb N	5	7	11-12

Scotts labels list one setting for all Scotts broadcast/rotary spreaders (DLX and Mini are the same). Scotts does NOT publish Lesco settings. Jonathan Green is highlighted because their labels include Lesco settings. Echo RB-60 uses the same numeric scale as Scotts per the Echo owner's manual.

## SiteOne SGN 240 Spreader Conversion Chart (Official)

LESCO SETTING	SCOTTS DLX / MINI	ECHO RB-60	EARTHWAY	SPYKER
11	n/a	n/a	13	3
12	4	4	13 1/4	3 1/4
13	5	5	13 3/4	3 1/2
14	5	5	14 1/2	4
15	6	6	15 1/2	4 1/4
16	6	6	16 3/4	4 1/4
17	6 1/2	6 1/2	17 3/4	4 1/2
18	7	7	18 1/4	4 3/4
19	7 1/2	7 1/2	18 3/4	4 3/4
20+	Outside Scotts/Echo range		20-23	5-5 1/2

SGN 240 = standard granule size for most fertilizers. Find the Lesco setting on your product bag, read across to your spreader. Highlighted row: SiteOne's own example (Lesco 15 = Scotts 6). Scotts/Echo not published above Lesco 19.

**Bag settings are starting points.** A homeowner tested Lesco setting 19 (bag-recommended for 3.5 lbs/1K) and measured 5.83 lbs/1K (67% over target). He dropped to setting 14 to hit 3.7 lbs/1K. Your spreader, your walking speed, and your product will give different results. Calibrate.

**Calibrate for EVERY product.** Different granules have different sizes, densities, and flow rates. A setting that delivers 2.5 lbs/1K of Scotts Turf Builder might deliver 8 lbs/1K of Milorganite. Write verified settings on each bag with a Sharpie.

9 products  
VERIFIED SETTINGS

5 spreaders  
CONVERSION CHART

10 min  
CALIBRATION TIME

3 mph  
TARGET WALK SPEED

5 ft  
PASS SPACING (SCOTTS)

## The 25-Foot Calibration Method (Cornell Cooperative Extension)

- 1 **Load exactly 10 lbs** of product into the hopper (weigh on a bathroom scale).
- 2 **Set the dial** to the bag-recommended setting as your starting point.
- 3 **Mark 25 feet** on your lawn with two flags or stakes. Start a few feet before flag 1.
- 4 **Walk the strip at your normal pace.** Open at flag 1, close at flag 2. Do NOT slow down.
- 5 **Measure the spread width** (the main band of coverage, not stray granules).
- 6 **Weigh what's left** in the hopper. Subtract from 10 = pounds applied.
- 7 **Calculate:** Test area = 25 ft x width. Rate = (lbs applied / test area) x 1,000.
- 8 **Adjust and repeat** until measured rate matches your target. Write the setting on the bag.

## Worked Example

You applied 1.2 lbs across a 25-foot strip

Measured width: 8 feet

Test area:  $25 \times 8 = 200$  sq ft

Your rate:  $(1.2 / 200) \times 1,000 = 6.0$  lbs/1K

Target was 3.0 lbs/1K — setting is way too high

Fix: Drop the dial 2 to 3 clicks and run again

**Tolerance:** Rutgers says within 10% is acceptable. UMass says 5%. Aim for 10%. If target is 3.0, anything between 2.7 and 3.3 is fine.

## Bag Math Formula

$$\text{Rate} = (\text{Bag Weight} / \text{Coverage}) \times 1,000$$

Gives you lbs of product per 1,000 sq ft

**Example:** Scotts Turf Builder = 12.5 lbs / 5,000 sq ft

Rate =  $(12.5 / 5,000) \times 1,000 = 2.5$  lbs/1K

$$\text{Total Needed} = \text{Rate} \times (\text{Your Lawn} / 1,000)$$

Tells you how many lbs to load in the hopper

**Example:** 2.5 lbs/1K x (5,000 / 1,000) = 12.5 lbs total

## The Scotts Wheel Striping Fix

The impeller sits below the wheels. Walk too slowly and product hits the hollow wheels, collects, and drops in concentrated lines. Here's how to fix it:



### WALK FASTER

3 mph minimum (brisk pace).  
Faster spin = product clears the wheels. This is the #1 fix.



### COOKING SPRAY

Spray PAM on inner wheel surfaces before each use. Granules slide off instead of sticking.



### DUCT TAPE

Line inside of wheels with black duct tape. Covers the hollow channels. Works well for fine prills.



### LARGER PRILLS

Bigger granules (Lesco, Andersons) clear wheels better than small prills (Scotts, Milo).



### UPGRADE

Pneumatic or closed wheels (Scotts Elite, Earthway 2150, Lesco) eliminate the problem entirely.

If stripes already happened: they fade in 2 to 4 weeks. Apply iron supplement (Ironite or chelated iron) to even color. Do NOT re-fertilize the lighter areas.

**Technique checklist:** Walk at 3 mph (brisk). Scotts: 5-foot pass spacing. Treat perimeter first, then fill interior. For best uniformity: half-rate in one direction, half-rate perpendicular (Purdue method). Never stop with the gate open. Close before turning at the end of each pass.

**This is the reference card. The Blade Boss calculator does the math for you.**

Enter your product, your zone size, and your target N rate. Get exact lbs/1K, total product needed, and the starting dial setting for your spreader model.

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