# **Aeration**

#### What is Aeration?

Simply put, aeration is a cultural lawn treatment which involves more specialist work on your lawn. This work is labour intensive and hard work if you don't have the right equipment. It is best completed in the Spring, Autumn and Winter periods when the lawn conditions are right i.e. not boggy, dry or frosty.



## Why Aerate your lawn?

It could be for a variety of reasons and is not exclusively for the management and reduction of compaction. All cultural treatments allow air and water to get to the roots and improve the lawns health. The soil will benefit from a less compacted structure enabling new, strong root growth. A must for a healthy lawn.

## Aeration...Let your lawn breathe

The purpose of aeration is to punch holes through any sub surface thatch and/or relieve compaction, allowing water and nutrients to pass into the root zone. Which aids gaseous exchange. This leads to improved drainage, i.e. stops water sitting in the thatch layer, leading to a drier top surface which discourages moss and disease.

Aeration can be completed in different ways. The type which is best for your lawn will depend on different factors including the time of year and soil conditions.

**Hollow Tine (core aeration)** – we remove plugs of soil from the lawn. This allows the surface to fall into the gaps left so increasing the effect of the process. (Longevity: Medium to Long - Repeat Annually or every 2-3 years dependent on your lawn conditions)

**Slitter Tine** - using a long, 5mm thick blade that penetrates the soil up to 125mm deep, helping to open up channels for water and oxygen. (Longevity: Short – will give a quick fix, but with regular (once/twice a year) applications a more long-term effect is noticed.) Especially beneficial after dry periods. Nothing is removed.

**Fracture Tine** – using a "chisel tine", that penetrates the soil up to 125mm deep, and 13mm wide. Nothing is removed. (Longevity: Short – will give a quick fix, but may prove beneficial after dry periods)

#### **Benefits of Aeration**

- Improve drainage and oxygen supply to the turf roots
- · Helps aid control of moss.
- Helps lawns recover from fungal attack

## What next ... Why over seed?

Having done all this hard work, over seeding your lawn will aid recovery, improving the colour and texture of your lawn.

We recommend Slitter Aeration at least once every 12 months. Hollow and Solid is every 12-24 months, as required. If you having Slitter Aeration the others are unnecessary.