

Mixing Iron Sulphate (Soluble Iron or Iron Sulphate)

You should always apply iron sulphate products to the whole lawn in an evenly distributed manner.

You can apply by pressure sprayer, watering can or even by sprinkling dry powder (not recommended as it can be uneven distribution)

How much mixture do you need?

Regardless of whether you are after a green-up or turf hardening the amount of water in the mixture will remain the same, only the amount of dry iron sulphate powder will change:

- 1g to 2g per litre of water per square metre for greener grass (100 to 200g for 100 square metres)
- 2g to 3g per litre of water per square metre for turf hardening (200 to 300g for 100 square metres)
- 4g to 5g per litre of water per square metre for moss killing (400 to 500g for 100 square metres)

The safest limit is 5g per square metre in cool damp conditions. If applying in hot and dry conditions ensure that the soil is very well watered or grass could be damaged.

If applying for the first time we suggest the product should be applied in two lots of a few days or 1-2 weeks apart for improved grass safety. This will allow you to calculate the exact mix for best performance with your grass/soil type.

How much to mix?

This is worked out by the area of your lawn NOT how much water you need.

eg; for lawn of 200m square with 5g product per metre $200 \times 5 = 1000$ grams needed = 1 kilo product

A WATERING CAN normally holds 10 litres water and I would need 64 litres (32 for 100m square so twice the amount) which is about 7 CANS of water.

I now need to divide my product into 7 CANS also. This means: $1000\text{grams} \div 7 = 145$ grams per CAN of 10 litres of water. To measure this quickly if you don't have scales use a measuring jug with about 150 to 160 mls (millilitres are similar to grams so a jug will do) of product per watering can.

Quantities for Knapsack Sprayer For use with our recommended nozzles only.

A sprayer, because of the finer droplets requires less water for the same result compared to a watering can.

This saves a lot of time. So say your tub states to mix your product in 8 to 12 litres of water for 100m square of lawn.

The amount of water is a guide. Try a test run on your lawn first with just water to see how much you need.

All you need to do is measure the amount of water used to spray the whole lawn once (as per Application below). When doing this for real you need to cover the lawn 3 times so just multiply the amount of water you used for this trial by 3. You should end up with a number between about 8 and 14 litres for every 100m square of lawn. I use about 9 litres for 100m² if spraying 3 times.

Now use the directions on the bag of product to work out how much product to use. This is worked out by the area of your lawn NOT how much water you need.

Example; for a lawn of 400m square with 5g product per metre $400 \times 5 = 2000$ grams needed = 2 kilos product I would need a total of 36 litres water (9 litres for 100m² so 4 times that amount for 400m square).

My Knapsack Sprayer holds 16 litres so I would put 12 litres in my knapsack and fill up 2 more times.

I now need to divide my product into 3 fills also. This means: $2000\text{grams} \div 3 = 670$ grams per knapsack of 12 litres of water. To measure this quickly if you don't have scales use a measuring jug with about 700 mls of product per knapsack fill.

Mixing Tip Sometimes it can be difficult to dissolve the last little bit of soluble fertiliser, ferrous sulphate included. This means the very few particles that remain can clog fine spray nozzles, watering can sprinkle bars or roses. Here are a few tips to help you get the most out of the product:

- Wear rubber or nitrile gloves * to prevent staining to hands
- For ease of weighing/measuring you can treat one litre equal to one kilo
- Mix in a different container to the one you are going to use to apply the product
- Mixing with warm (not hot) water will help dissolve the product better
- After mixing, thoroughly stir and allow to settle for a minute
- Now pour your mixture into your watering can or sprayer leaving the last cupful of dregs in the bottom
- This cupful contains the particles that didn't dissolve the first time and may cause clogging
- If you need to mix more than one lot, keep the dregs as some will dissolve with the next mixing

Application The manufacturer's instructions give enough total mixture to cover the planned lawn area 3 or 4 times over. This is necessary to thoroughly wet the lawn. This means that by the time you have gone over the whole lawn once you will only be about a third of the way through your total number of CANS or FILLS.

If you're unsure of your lawn area it's worth taking a bit of time to measure your lawn and find out by going to [How to Measure a Lawn](#) . You'll only need to do it once and you can order and apply all your lawn products accurately from then on.

Timing As mentioned earlier moisture is required anytime you apply ferrous sulphate. The stronger the concentration the more moisture and less heat is required.

For a green-up, soil moisture is required with a dewy morning being ideal. As long as strong sun is not expected then this is a great treatment from spring through to autumn.

If you are applying at the turf hardening rates then autumn through to spring is your time. If you are ever concerned about moisture availability why not give the lawn a light sprinkling from the hose beforehand. Alternatively apply straight after a shower of rain.

If you are applying at the highest rates then cool and wet conditions must prevail otherwise you will cause temporary damage to the grass. At this rate you will severely blacken moss – nice!

In summary, I would not go above 1g per metre in warm (not hot) wet weather. At 1g to 2g per metre requires cool and ground moisture available. At 3g to 4g I'd want wet and cool. In all instances avoid frost and freezing conditions.

Spray Nozzles. There is a whole plethora of different nozzles for fitting to your sprayer. They offer different spray patterns, flow rates and spray areas. For turf we generally only use deflector nozzles that give a wide flat spray area ideal for spraying and walking at a steady pace. I recommend you stick to either green or blue.