

GRASS SEEDING AND TURFING

INTRODUCTION

This TECHnote provides guidance on the selection of grass seed mixtures and turf species for general landscaping for use in *0252 Landscape – natural grass surfaces*.

GRASS SEEDING

The tables below are intended as general guidance for consideration when selecting grass lawns. The following are examples of mixtures for typical uses, suitable for temperate and cool climates. Obtain specialist advice from the seed supplier on appropriate mixtures for a specific project.

Mixture A

Typical use: Irrigated areas (school grounds, playing fields, building surrounds, parks and shopping centres).

Seed species	Application rate (kg/ha)
Tall Fescue (<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>)	180
Kentucky Bluegrass (<i>Poa pratensis</i> -improved cultivar)	60
O'Connor's Strawberry Clover (<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i> cv. O'Connor's)	15
Total	245

Mixture B

Typical use: Dryland grass for urban, non-irrigated areas.

Seed species	Application rate (kg/ha)
Alta tall Fescue (<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> cv. Alta)	140
Perennial Rye Grass (<i>Lolium perenne</i> cv. Victorian)	50
Chewings Fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i> ssp. <i>commutata</i>)	40
White Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>)	20
Subtotal	250
Hulled Couch * (<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>)	30
Total	280

* Include only in spring sowing and only in dryland areas which are not next to irrigation areas.

Mixture C

Typical use: Roadside batters, underpasses, steep slopes with bitumen/straw mulch.

Seed species	Application rate (kg/ha)
Rye Corn (<i>Secale cereale</i> cv. "Black Winter")	50
Perennial Rye Grass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>)	50
Wimmera Rye Grass (<i>Lolium rigidum</i>)	20
White Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>)	10
Subterranean Clover (<i>Trifolium subterraneum</i>)	30
Total	160

Mixture D

Typical use: Temporary grass.

Seed species	Application rate (kg/ha)
Rye Corn (<i>Secale cereale</i> , cv. "Black Winter")	100
Wimmera Rye Grass (<i>Lolium rigidum</i>)	20
**Crimson Clover	20
Total	140

** Inoculate Crimson Clover with Group C Rhizobia inoculant and lime coat before seeding.



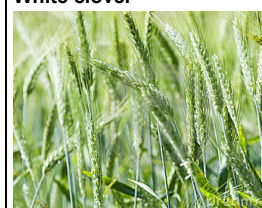
Grass seed



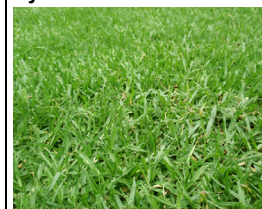
Fescue lawn



White clover



Rye corn



Kikuyu



Palmetto



Sapphire

GRASS SEEDING AND TURF

TURF

The table below provides guidance* on the selection of some common turf species.

Turf variety	Colour and texture	Winter colour	Shade tolerance	Drought tolerance	Frost tolerance	Wear and durability	Recommended uses
Sapphire	Deep green, fine texture, soft leaf	Very good	Moderate to good	Excellent	Very good	Excellent	Residential and commercial lawns
Palmetto (SS100)	Deep emerald green, Soft leaf	Very good	Good	Good	Excellent	Very good	Residential and commercial lawns
Sir Walter	Deep green, soft leaf.	Good	Good	Very good	Good	Good	Residential/commercial/industrial lawns and parkland
Durban	Light green	Fair	Excellent	Very good	Poor	Poor	Heavily shaded areas
Kikuyu	Light green, medium to coarse texture	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very good	Very good	Lawns, parks, cemeteries, golf course fairways, playing fields, air strips, race courses and erosion control
CT2 Couch	Deep green	Prone to discolour in severe winter weather	Poor	Very good	Poor	Excellent	Sports fields, golf course fairways and tees, parks, home lawns and other general landscaping
Santa Ana	Bright green, fine, soft leaf	Poor	Poor	Very good	Poor	Very good	Residential/commercial/industrial lawns, streetscapes, sports grounds, golf fairways, parkland and soil stabilisation
Wintergreen Couch	Deep green, soft, fine to medium leaf	Poor	Moderate	Very good	Excellent	Very good	Council footpaths, walkways and easements. Lawns, sports ovals, tennis courts and erosion control

* The guidance has been sourced from various Australian turf suppliers, and is general in nature. Consult your local turf supplier for project specific advice.