

Buffalo Grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*)



Uses:

Home Lawns
Naturestrips
Commercial landscapes

Growth Style:

Stoloniferous

Texture:

Broad soft leaf

Description:

Known as St Augustine grass in some countries, Buffalo grass is a native of the West Indies. The Australian developed versatile soft leaf varieties of *Sir Walter* and *Kings Pride* now dominate the Australian Instant Turf market due to their adaptation to most lawn environments around the country. Propagation is by turf and vegetative methods only.

Preferred Mowing Height and frequency:

Regular mowing improves the quality and look of a Soft leaf Buffalo lawn. The ideal mowing height is 30-40mm. Mow more often in spring and summer. Less frequent mowing is required in autumn and winter.

Attributes:

Shade tolerant
Excellent drought tolerance, Medium salt tolerance
Good wear resistance
Short dormancy period (Sir Walter and Kings Pride)
Minimal irrigation
Recycled water can be used as an irrigation source
Adapts to most soil types

Maintenance:

Apply a high Nitrogen lawn food in September and again in December. Remove thatch each spring in mid to late November by mowing the lawn short and follow this with an application of lawn food and a deep irrigation. Topdressing with sand or loamy soil to achieve a level surface minimises turf scalping. Topdressing can take place after full recovery from de-thatching processes or at any time during mid-late spring. In summer the use of wetting agents such as Anco "HydrateIT" will keep the turf green and reduce the incidence of hydrophobic soil. In March apply a Complete NPK Fertiliser to aid root production prior to winter dormancy. This will aid the spring green-up process.