



Landscape excellence

# Home Lawn Guide

Trusted products for landscaping perfection.

Experts from earth to turf.

PGG Wrightson Turf

## CHOOSE WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU

DURASCAPE® BLENDS

### DuraScape® All Sports



QUICK  
GERMINATION



HARD  
WEARING

DuraScape All Sports – A blend of winter-active turf type perennial ryegrasses with Mediterranean germplasm enabling quick establishment. These ryegrasses also establish in cool temperatures and recover well from wear and tear.

### DuraScape® Elite



DROUGHT  
TOLERANT



SHADE  
TOLERANT



QUICK  
GERMINATION



HARD  
WEARING

A blend of turf type perennial ryegrass, fine fescue and bentgrass, for a fine-textured turf suited to low mowing, with excellent drought and good shade tolerance.

### DuraScape® Parks



DROUGHT  
TOLERANT



QUICK  
GERMINATION



HARD  
WEARING

A blend of tall fescue, turf type perennial ryegrass and fine fescue for areas with limited water supply and lower fertility, but where a premium turf is required.

### DuraScape® Couch



DROUGHT  
TOLERANT



SHADE  
TOLERANT



HARD  
WEARING



WARM  
SEASON

A blend of turf type perennial ryegrass and couch grass (bermudagrass). The ryegrass acts a nurse grass for the slower establishing couch, which once established provides a fine, dense turf with excellent drought tolerance. Surviving ryegrass masks the couch's winter dormancy in cooler climates.

### DuraScape® Kikuyu



DROUGHT  
TOLERANT



SHADE  
TOLERANT



HARD  
WEARING



WARM  
SEASON

A blend of turf type perennial ryegrass and kikuyu. The ryegrass acts a nurse grass for the slower establishing kikuyu, which once established provides a hardy turf with excellent drought tolerance. Surviving ryegrass masks the kikuyu's winter dormancy in cooler climates.

## USEFUL TIPS:

Spring and autumn are the best times to sow a new lawn. Consider a weed spray 2 – 3 months after establishment, with a suitable selective broadleaf weed spray (read directions thoroughly to ensure your weed spray is selective to your seed blend). Sprays should be registered for turf.

- It is best to remove clippings from your lawn when mowing, especially at establishment time, as clippings may smother the new lawn.
- Watch for insect pests, an insecticide may be required if insect damage is observed.
- Consider a soil test to check for any nutrient deficiencies and pH levels to help create optimum conditions for establishment. Apply lime or gypsum to improve low pH soils.
- All herbicides and insecticides as mentioned above must be used in accordance with label instructions.

## PRECAUTIONS

- Don't prepare the lawn surface in rain or when the soil is too wet.
- Don't over water to the 'soaked' stage especially at sowing time as the seed will swell and burst. The surface of the soil should be damp.
- Don't put too much seed on – exceeding the rate recommended on the packaging will result in a poor, diseased and ultimately thin lawn.
- Don't over apply gypsum or lime without soil incorporating as the soil surface can become hard and impenetrable.
- Don't over apply fertiliser as it encourages excess growth and fungal problems. Apply fertiliser when the lawn shows the first signs of running out of nutrients. This can be seen by the grass going a yellow colour. Never apply fertiliser when the lawn is under stress.
- Don't compost lawn clippings after the lawn has been sprayed for weeds. Generally it is recommended not to compost for one month after spraying, (some herbicides recommend not to compost for up to six months). Read the label on sprays. Be careful of all sprays, especially the spray drift onto neighbouring plants. Apart from causing death to these surrounding plants, damage will occur to turf if sprays are not used at the recommended rates.

Experts from earth to turf.

Call 1800 3872 8873

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PGG Wrightson Turf

## INTRODUCTION

An attractive lawn complements any garden and adds prestige to your property. Many people are unhappy with the results of their efforts in sowing a new lawn. To help you avoid disappointment; PGG Wrightson Turf offer the same quality seed mixtures and establishment tips that professionals use to establish a successful lawn.

### Start in plenty of time

A month or two spent preparing for sowing will allow enough time for proper preparation in most cases. If your new lawn requires a large amount of soil movement to correct undulations or deep cultivation you should allow more time for proper consolidation before sowing.

### Sow at the right time

Lawns are best sown in spring or autumn when conditions are less harsh and there is active growth and natural rainfall.

### Choose a lawn blend suited to your climate that suits your planned use

Carefully read the information overleaf to select the right lawn grass for your area.

## 5 STEPS TO New Lawn Establishment

### 1 PREPARATION

Spray lawn with non-residual weed and grass killer (preferably twice, 3 weeks apart) or remove the grass and remaining organic matter, then work the soil to create a seed bed. Consolidate and level the surface to create a firm, fine, level, weed free seed bed. Apply a suitable lawn starter fertiliser and work into the top of the soil (30 - 50 mm) after final levelling. Finally rake one way leaving the surface 'ridged' from the rake tines. Determine the area to be sown (square metres), and work out the amount of your chosen seed blend that is required for this area; calculate using a sowing rate of 30 - 50 g/m<sup>2</sup> (15 g/m<sup>2</sup> for couch and kikuyu seed blends).

### 2 APPLICATION

Shake the bag of DuraScape® blend, both upright and upside down to ensure the seed blend is well mixed. Apply the seed at the sowing rate recommended on the packaging, on top of the prepared surface. Care should be taken to apply the correct amount of seed, as too much could create seedling diseases and too little may be too sparse. A good method is to split the required amount of seed in half and apply one half up and down and then the other half across the area; that way evenness is maintained.

### 3 INCORPORATION

Most seed needs to be under the soil surface and not on top. A good way to achieve this is to create 'ridges' with the rake (see preparation) and then after applying seed, rake across the 'ridges' which assists incorporating the seed into the soil. Raking should be light so that the seed is in the top 10 mm of soil. A light rolling of the surface after incorporation will assist with seed/soil contact. Do not roll wet soil, as the roller will 'pick up' the soil or seed, resulting in an uneven surface.

### 4 WATER

Water thoroughly and evenly after application taking care not to 'puddle' as the seed may float to lower or undulated areas. Keep the soil damp with a soft spray sprinkler or irrigation so that the surface remains damp – but not soaking wet, for at least three weeks. This may be 3 - 4 watering times or more per day in hot dry weather. Then reduce the watering and gradually aim for 2 - 3 times per week when adequately established.

### 5 MOWING

Depending on the DuraScape blend used, most seed will germinate in 5 - 10 days in ideal conditions. Commence mowing when the grass gets to 50 mm by setting the mower at this height and gradually reduce the height of the cut every week until the desired lawn height is reached. Do not remove any more than 1/3 of the leaf height with each mowing. Generally speaking the shorter the lawn is mown, the shorter the root system, so consider a higher cut through dry summers.

### OVERSOWING

Prepare the surface by mowing as low as possible. Scarify or rake lawn and remove trash. Top dress with soil where required and work into existing grass with the back of a rake. Apply seed and fertiliser (see preparation) and rake in. Seed rate will vary depending on lawn density (10 - 30 g/m<sup>2</sup>). For patches; surface work the patches with a rake or hand fork, apply fertiliser and seed (as described under preparation) and incorporate. Keep damp for a few weeks.

### AFTER CARE

Mowing – never mow more than 1/3 of the lawn height in one mow. If the lawn becomes long, reduce height gradually over time. Mow regularly to encourage lawn density. Fertilise every 2 - 3 months with a suitable slow release fertiliser during the growing season. Spray your lawn for weeds once a year. It will be necessary to water lawns in dry summer months as this is when stress is observed with most lawn types.

### MAINTENANCE

Continue to fertilise at regular intervals with a suitable slow release fertiliser during the growing season. You could consider a soil wetting agent of your choice from October through till February to aid in moisture retention.

Watch for grass weeds and broadleaf weeds, spraying for these in early spring and autumn. Keep your mowing height at about 30 mm (always cutting only 1/3 of the leaf at one time). Watch for insect attack, especially subterranean grubs. Treat with a suitable insecticide if necessary.