



Landscape excellence

Home Lawn Guide

**Trusted products for
landscaping perfection.**



Experts from earth to 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 fertiliser that professionals use. Here are some tips on how 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 cut to fill (surface leveling) or deep cultivation you should allow a good three months for proper consolidation before sowing.

Sow at the right time

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

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

Carefully read the information on the next page to select the right lawn grass for you.

CHOOSE WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU

DURASCAPE® BLENDS

DuraScape® All Purpose



A blend of dark turf perennial ryegrasses, creeping red fescue, chewings fescue and browntop.

A fast establishing blend ideal for an all purpose lawn that can handle wear and tear and has excellent presentation.

DuraScape® Fine Fescue



A blend of creeping red and chewings fescue that has excellent drought and shade tolerance.

This mix will produce a very fine textured lawn that will establish slower than blends containing turf perennial ryegrasses.

Annual grass weeds such as *Poa annua* can be controlled in this lawn.

DuraScape® Sports Oval



A blend of 3 winter-active, hard wearing turf perennial ryegrasses.

The cultivars in this blend contain Mediterranean germplasm which enables them to germinate and establish at lower temperatures such as late winter or early spring.

Rapid establishment and recovery from wear.

DuraScape® Traditional



A blend of chewings fescue, creeping red fescue and browntop.

This mix will produce a fine textured lawn suited for low mowing, with good drought and shade tolerance.

It won't withstand the wear and tear delivered by blends with turf perennial ryegrasses, however with care and attention this blend will provide you with an excellent show lawn.

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 lawn starter fertiliser such as Andersons Lawn Starter 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/m²).



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 of 30 - 50 g/m², 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, the 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 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 (5 - 50 g/m²). 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 quality slow release fertiliser such as Andersons Lawn Food 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 Andersons Lawn Food during March, May, August and November. You can apply a soil wetting agent of your choice from October through till February to aid in moisture retention.

- Handheld hose option – Bi-Agra 2 L
- Sprayable – Restore 20 L
- Granule application - Restore granular 20 kg

Watch for grass weeds and broadleaf weeds, spraying for these in early spring & autumn. Keep your mowing height at about 30 mm (always cutting only 1/3 of the leaf at one time). For grass grub and porina control, consider Acelepryn which provides season long control that is safe to use and bee friendly. Talk to your local Rural Supplies store for more details.

LAWN CARE

MAINTENANCE TOOLS:

Andersons Lawn Starter 20-11.8-4 (20-27-5)



This well balanced lawn starter fertiliser will ensure the new lawn has a good start, with rapid root establishment. This fertiliser contains 40% PCSCU (Polymer Coated Sulphur Coated Urea) which has up to 8 weeks slow release nitrogen. Apply during lawn preparation with a pedestrian wheel spreader or hand held spreader. 20 – 30 g/m² (275 - 400 m² per 8 kg bag) every 6 - 8 weeks.

Andersons Lawn Food 28-1.8-10 (28-4-12) + 1% Fe



This complete home lawn fertiliser ensures consistent plant health throughout the seasons. With 25% PCSCU (Polymer Coated Sulphur Coated Urea) + 1% iron, SGN 215 (2.15 mm particle size). Apply regularly every 6 - 8 weeks with a pedestrian wheel spreader or hand held spreader. 20 – 30 g/m² (275 - 400 m² per 8 kg bag) every 6 - 8 weeks.

Restore Granules – high quality granular soil wetting agent



Apply at lawn preparation, renovation time or as part of a summer wetting agent programme. Assists with even distribution of irrigation and prevents dry patch. Easy and accurate to spread with a pedestrian wheel spreader or hand held spreader. Available in a 25 kg box. 15 – 25 g/m² (1.5 kg - 3 kg per 100 m²).

Bi-Agra – Hose on wetting agent



Bi-Agra is an easy application hose on wetting agent. Moisture uptake and retention is enhanced around the root zone improving plant health and vigour. Apply to lawns and gardens before plant stress has occurred. Apply in the cool hours of the day and follow with irrigation. Shake the container well before use. A 2 litre container will cover 150 m².

Acelepryn



Acelepryn provides safe and effective control of a wide range of turf damaging insects while also minimising the impact on the environment. Truly selective, new generation chemistry designed for optimum impact on pest insect populations such as grass grub, porina and sod webworm with greatly reduced impact to the user, the environment and beneficial non-target organisms such as bees and earthworms. Acelepryn delivers excellent and safe preventative performance, with optimal results achieved if applied early in the season (early to mid-October).

Contact your local turf contractor for further assistance with weed and insect control.

USEFUL TIPS:

Spring and autumn are the best times to sow a new lawn. Consider a weed spray 3 – 6 months after establishment, with a suitable selective broadleaf weed spray and/or a selective grass weed control 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 to increase low pH soils or gypsum for high clay or compacted 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. The surface of the soil should be damp.
- Don't apply too much seed – exceeding the rate recommended in this guide 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 can encourage excess growth and disease. Apply fertiliser when the lawn shows the first signs of running out of nutrients. This can be seen by the grass yellowing and thinning. 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.

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