

# *DuraVeg*<sup>®</sup> *Bulletin*

EDITION 6 - WINTER 2021

***Proven systems that reclaim  
and restore environments.***

*Experts from earth to turf.*

# Bulletin

## Edition 6 - Winter 2021

*Welcome to another edition of the DuraVeg® Bulletin.*

We are pleased to be again attending in-person events here in Australia with numerous exhibitions, field days and conferences back on the calendar. It's great to be networking with industry peers and sitting in on education sessions. This is something that the virtual world we have been living in can't replace.

We are excited to have launched our new DuraVeg® Fibre Matrix™ in Australia last month, with this product soon to be available in New Zealand. Tested in Australia by Landloch, DuraVeg FM exceeds Australian Bonded Fibre Matrix requirements. Contact us to try some today and be on the lookout for the striking new packaging.

Over in New Zealand the colder weather is fast approaching with mountains in both the North and South Islands both receiving snow. This directly impacts the speed of establishment for vegetative stabilisation. As the seeding season slows, the conference season picks up and New Zealand too is in a fortunate position to be able to host in-person events again. The Equipment Expo was held in the remote Shantytown Heritage Park on the West Coast of the South Island and was our first event to exhibit at since the lockdowns forced by Covid-19. The next 6 months is packed with conferences and field days as well as the scheduled opening of the exciting Transmission Gully, an infrastructure project of national significance that will run between Linden and MacKays Crossing.

In this issue we have a feature profile of Mike Glasson of Lawn & Turf Contracting as well as case studies from Karri Valley, Dunedin and Borg Manufacturing in Oberon. We hope you enjoy the issue.



**Oliver Norton**

*Business Development Manager*

*Australia*



**Joe Johnson**

*Business Development Manager*

*New Zealand*



*Sustainable revegetation*

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## DuraVeg® Fibre Matrix™

DuraVeg® Fibre Matrix™ is a fully biodegradable, Fibre Matrix™ (FM) composed of 100% recycled Thermally Refined® virgin wood fibres and tackifier. The FM is phytosanitised, free from plastic netting, and upon application forms an intimate bond with

the soil surface to create a porous, absorbent and flexible erosion resistant blanket that allows for rapid germination and accelerated plant growth. DuraVeg Fibre Matrix is laboratory tested in Australia and exceeds Australian Bonded Fibre Matrix requirements.

### SUPERIOR FIBRES MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

DuraVeg utilises a patented Thermally Refined manufacturing process that introduces 100% recycled wood chips into steam heat within a high-temperature and high-pressure vessel to create long and highly absorbent fibres. These fibres are proven to provide:



#### BETTER COVERAGE

Seven bags of DuraVeg Fibre Matrix mulch provide as much coverage as 10 bags of competitive wood mulch.



#### BETTER PROTECTION

Superior coverage and greater loft within the matrix effectively reduces soil surface evaporation and erosion.



#### BETTER ESTABLISHMENT

Greater loft also provides greater air pore space and water-holding capacity to promote more complete seed germination and faster vegetation establishment.



#### GREATER PRODUCTIVITY

Uniform mulch slurries stay in suspension longer resulting in fewer clogs, better shooting distance and more uniform coverage — you get more done in less time.

## Proven systems that reclaim and restore environments.

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#### MEDIUM SLOPE APPLICATION

## Karri Valley RAC Camping Grounds

**Who:** RAC Camping Grounds – Karri Valley.

**Where:** Karri Valley, Pemberton, SW Western Australia.

**What:** Various areas of exposed top soil have been eroded by weather including rain and wind. RAC Camping Grounds were looking for an application that would protect the camping areas, recreational areas and camping stands from erosion as well as encourage seed growth. GHEMS Holding Pty Ltd were contacted to undertake the work.

**When:** Applications began in early May 2020. Various projects were completed over a period of 5 months during the wet season of South West Western Australia.

#### What were the products used?

Various degrees of slopes and batters were present for this project. On the steeper banks ProMatrix™ EFM™ was applied at 3500 kg/ha mixed with a seed blend of predominantly Colosseum ryegrass and couch grass seed.

On the flatter areas that presented less erosion potential, Profile High Performance Wood with Tack Mulch was applied together with seed; the application rates varying from 2000 kg/ha to 2500 kg/ha depending on the conditions.

#### What is the process used to get to this point?

GHEMS Holdings were enlisted to provide a solution and recommended the use of ProMatrix and High Performance Wood with Tack mulch. DuraVeg® from PGG

Wrightson Turf were contacted by GHEMS to supply the products. A site visit was scheduled for the areas to be measured. There were three distinct projects involved and a plan was formulated to first prioritise the steeper slopes and following this the less exposed sites. This was all required to be completed in a time frame that would allow rainfall events to assist the emergence of the vegetation.



#### MEDIUM SLOPE GERMINATION



**FLAT GROUND GERMINATION**



**FLAT GROUND APPLICATION**

**What have the challenges been in this project?**

Timing of rainfall events, distance from the Perth metropolitan area, very poor soil conditions, potential for severe erosion during heavy rainfall events, vegetation being hampered due to fauna (kangaroos) and the time frame required by RAC

Camping Grounds to be open with all areas of revegetation completed before the tourists begin arriving.

**What has been the best thing about this project?**

Seeing all three projects come together with well executed timing of applications. The workmanship of GHEMS Holdings was excellent and resulted in high-quality delivery of all projects on time during challenging conditions. Proven products ProMatrix and Profile High Performance Wood with Tack mulch delivered a high-quality end result.

**What are the results from the project?**

RAC Camping Grounds expectations were met, thanks to GHEMS Holdings going above and beyond to deliver the results. The sites are looking great and revegetation has been successfully established ahead of tourists arriving.



**LARGE BATTER PRE APPLICATION**



**LARGE BATTER APPLICATION**



**LARGE BATTER GERMINATION**

# Flex MSE Wall Case Study – Dunedin

## PRODUCTS USED:

Flex MSE Vegetated Retaining Wall System  
 Flexterra HP-FGM hydraulic mulch @ 4000 kg/ha

## CUSTOM DURAVEG SEED

### BLEND CONTAINING:

- One50 Perennial Ryegrass
- Governors Creeping Red Fescue
- Survivor Chewings Fescue
- Huia White Clover

## PROJECT RESULTS:

Often in a residential setting, traditional hard facing walls such as timber or block are presented for near vertical steep terrain. However, the owner of this property was looking for something a bit different and chose the Flex MSE system provided by Advance Landscape Systems in New Zealand.

The Flex MSE wall was installed in 2019, and now the goal is to make it 'green'. PGG Wrightson Turf was engaged to provide solutions around the seeding options that could be hydroseeded using Flexterra® HP-FGM™ mulch in a climate that resides by the Otago Harbour.

The application was intended to start in March 2020, and then the nationwide lockdown occurred, which at the time, meant alterations to the original seed blend also had to be considered, as the region was fast approaching the frost season, which would inhibit germination and growth. Limited in time, this meant the seed blend had to involve a ryegrass with good winter growth which allows the blend to germinate in lower temperatures.

Flexterra HP-FGM hydromulch was used as it is one of the most highly engineered hydraulic mulches on the market. It has a functional longevity of up to 18 months, and when applied, will bond with the bag material instantly whilst creating a growing medium for grass establishment up to 8 times more than bare soil.



**TOP:** Installation of the Flex MSE system

**MIDDLE:** Flexterra HP-FGM applied at 4000 kg/ha applied in late April

**BOTTOM:** Establishment 11 weeks after application. Multiple frosts, and an Otago winter

**HEADER IMAGE :** Results 6 months after sowing



THICK LUSH HEALTHY VEGETATION SEPTEMBER 2020

## Borg Manufacturing Oberon, NSW



**BEFORE:** Surface was excavated and spoil was used as visual bund from roadside. **DECEMBER 2019**

### Situation

- Ecoscape Solutions were contracted by Borg Manufacturing in Oberon to complete a creek diversion channel at their local factory.

### Challenge

- Steep hard packed clay surface.
- Zero topsoil on batter.
- Poor access.
- Completed during hottest days of summer and during drought conditions.

### Solution & Application

- Prescribed ameliorants were used to balance deficiencies and support growth.
- ProGanics<sup>TM</sup> Biotic Soil Media<sup>TM</sup> was applied at 5 t/ha coverage to increase organic matter.
- Flexterra<sup>®</sup> HP-FGM<sup>TM</sup> was applied at 5 t/ha for maximum stabilisation and longevity during drought.

- Seed mix was a cover crop of millet as well as some cool season pasture species suited to the cold climate of Oberon.

### Results

- Cover crop didn't establish due to no rain for 3 months after application.
- The drought broke with some heavy storms and cool season species germinated and established quickly.
- Thick healthy vegetation 6 months after installation.



**PROGANICS APPLIED**  
**DECEMBER 2019**

## FEATURED PROFILE

# Mike Glasson

Director - Lawn and Turf Contracting Ltd.  
Hamilton, New Zealand



**How long have you been in the industry?**  
35 years.

**Where have you worked?** I started work at Te Awamutu Golf Course and completed an apprenticeship in Golf Course Greenkeeping, finishing second for my year. Worked under Doug Patterson who had had extensive work experience working on top courses around Australia. He was a wealth of knowledge and was a great role model to train under.

North Shore Golf Course, working in the construction team in turning the course into a 27-hole format and the construction of tees, greens, and fairways. Learnt how to grow grass on Auckland clay. Worked with Dave Aspin and became Leading Hand of 9 holes.

Remuera Golf Course, I was successful in being appointed 2IC position under Richard Warren. We held the NZ open in 1994 with 6 months' notice of a change of venue

from the Grange Golf Club. We took up the challenge to lengthen the course and put in more bunkers. Given the short preparation time, this was extremely rewarding.

Formosa First Taiwan; I was approached by TY Seng while working at Remuera GC to work on his Golf Course in Taiwan. Blair Cornthwaite and I took up the opportunity to work on the 36-hole Arnold Palmer resort course in Taipei. We also helped out at TY'S other course Formosa Yangmei Golf Course, a 27-hole Arnold Palmer resort course 45 minutes south of Formosa Course where we reconditioned the irrigation and backwash systems. We also held the Parliament Masters at Formosa where we had Nic Faldo (World No 1), Roger Davis and Vijay Singh; this was a big buzz.

**What led you to work in the revegetation industry?** Seeing how hydromulch can have amazing results was the main factor that led

me to working in the revegetation industry and working with challenging environments.

The challenge is to grow grass quickly to stop erosion. Hydromulch is a very cost-effective form of controlling sediment on large earthwork sites. We have been involved with revegetating quarry's, slip control, water spillways, and are working with some mining companies at present where we will be dealing with coastal sandy sites.

### **What is your biggest motivator?**

Working with our team to create a leading industry business in the civil and domestic market, where everyone in the team has an enjoyable and successful job. Seeing the development of our staff has been amazing, they start very green about the knowledge of grass and before long they are Turf guru's. We work hard at personal development in the company and are now seeing the benefits coming through.

### **Something interesting about you ...**

I enjoy fishing, motorbikes, snow skiing, socialising and relaxing at the beach.

## PGG Wrightson Turf Contacts

 [facebook.com/pggwrightsonturf](https://www.facebook.com/pggwrightsonturf)

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