



Lawn Solutions Australia

Turfgrass Selection Technical Guide

Technical and practical information
for installation, maintenance and
continued turf performance.



The levels of wear and usage, climate and appearance all need to be examined for the particular site.

Choosing Turfgrasses

Quality natural turf is an integral part of enhancing the overall appeal of landscaping works, from domestic through to large open-space commercial projects.

There are many varieties of turf available on the Australian market at any one time, but in choosing the one that's right for a particular situation, a range of factors should be considered.

The levels of wear and usage, climate and appearance all need to be examined for the particular site that is being looked at for turfing.

Fit for purpose:

- Is the lawn area for decorative purposes or have a more functional requirement?
- Is it an active open space area that will receive high - or low usage.
- Are there shade issues that should be taken into consideration?

The differences:

- There are some specific varieties however, which are very shade tolerant.
- All grasses need light and don't do well under trees.
- All varieties need good drainage to thrive. If there are potential drainage problems then works should be carried out prior to topsoil and turf installation for best results.
- Couch grasses make fine attractive lawns, but require a higher level of fertiliser and maintenance than other grasses to keep them attractive.
- Some grass varieties also put up many more seed heads than others and require more frequent mowing to keep them under control.
- Lawn choice is usually a combination of end-use requirements as well as climatic and

site-specific factors.

Consider local conditions:

Your local Lawn Solutions Australia turf supplier is often the best point of contact to help your decision when it comes to choosing your lawn variety.

Finding the best lawn for a situation can mean making trade-offs between functionality, appearance and performance.

In many situations it is often a good idea to discuss specifics with your local Lawn Solutions Australia turf supplier, as your particular climate and conditions may require assessment for soils, shade, or other micro-climate considerations.

Leading Varieties:

Strict international breeding protocols have been expanded upon by Lawn Solutions Australia to include other aspects of turf production. This has developed into the industry-leading turf-certification program AusGAP.

Lawn Solutions Australia's varieties have passed these stringent tests to become the standard in turf selection and specifications right around Australia.

Sir Walter Buffalo, Nullarbor Couch, Eureka Kikuyu, Platinum Zoysia and RTF Fescue are stand-out varieties that all conform to strict AusGAP breeding and production protocols.

These varieties are available from most Lawn Solutions Australia member growers as well as Lawn Solutions retail centres around the country.

If in doubt about the suitability of any of these varieties contact Lawn Solutions Australia for a no-obligation consultation.



Quick Evaluation

	Sir Walter	Nullarbor Couch	Eureka Kikuyu	Platinum Zoysia	RTF Fescue
Mowing	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Fertilising	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ● ○	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Weed Resistance	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○
Disease Resistance	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ○ ○ ○
Wear Resistance	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○
Shade Tolerance	● ● ● ● ○	● ○ ○ ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○
Heat Resistance	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○
Water Requirements	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Insect Resistance	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○
Average	● ● ● ● ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○	● ● ● ○ ○	● ● ○ ○ ○

More stars indicate best results. Data courtesy of Turf Research Australia

The greater the rating the greater the performance.

This comparison chart has been developed from survey data from over 40 Lawn Solutions Australia Turf Producers from around the country.

Warm Season / Cool Season

Lawn grasses can be simply divided into two separate categories; Cool Season and Warm Season Grasses.

As their names suggest, they are both best-suited to differing climatic regions. Also known as C3 (Cool Season) and C4 (Warm Season) grasses, they developed over the millennia to have different growth habits and have adapted to their respective climate zones.

The two groups have different developmental requirements, responding differently to temperature, moisture and light.

Warm season grasses require higher temperatures and light with lower requirements for moisture. For cool season grasses, it's the opposite.

Cool Season grasses generally generate from seed only. Each seed will sprout a single shoot and as the shoot matures, it hardens and sends out new shoots from its sides.

As this process continues, the original shoot is now a single plant containing many shoots, thickening and growing in a process called tillering.

Cool season grasses have differing strengths and weaknesses and because of their plant structure the seeds of differing varieties are often mixed together to achieve the benefits of each variety to compensate for the weakness of the other.

Because the majority have no runners, these grasses do not invade gardens pathways or go anywhere else they are unwanted.

To repair damaged or dead areas of lawn turf is as simple as either re-seeding the affected area, or cutting out the area, and replacing it from a new turf roll or slab from your turf supplier.

Growing Cool Season Lawns In Warmer Climates

Cool Season Grasses can be grown in warmer climates, with some varieties being more tolerant than others.

Most will not survive moderate humidity however, and to keep them alive and in peak health will require greater amounts of water, monitoring, and lawn care to be used when compared to warm season varieties.

The last decade has seen a dramatic shift of appeal for these water and nutrient-hungry grasses with many replaced by warm season varieties instead of trying to maintain unsuitable grass varieties in unsuitable environments.

Cool Season Varieties:

RTF, Tall Fescue, Fine Fescue, Bent Grass, Perennial Ryegrass, Bluegrass

NB. RTF Fescue is available from Specialist Cool Season Lawn Solutions Australia growers in more Southern areas of South-East Australia.

Tech. Summary

Selecting the appropriate turf in the design stage often comes down to the most appropriate variety for the site - what is fit for purpose and will provide the longevity and performance to thrive in years to come.

Lawn Solutions Australia Varieties come with an impressive 10-year product warranty when supplied

by an AusGAP certified Lawn Solutions Grower.

Sir Walter DNA Certified, Nullarbor Couch, Eureka Kikuyu, Platinum Zoysia and RTF Fescue are such varieties that all conform to strict AusGAP breeding and production protocols and come with this exclusive 10-year product warranty.



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