



PRODUCT TECHNICAL SHEET

Soil mixes

product name

Turf Special

description

Turf Special is a friable blend of sandy loam and GO Compost that is designed to meet recommendations for buffalo, couch & kikuyu lawns. It is certified to meet Australian Standard 4419, "Natural Soils". Designed as a turf underlay, Turf Special resists compaction whilst providing excellent water penetration & drainage. The compost aids in water holding capacity.

Added gypsum and fertiliser improves cation exchange capacity and provides a balanced supply of nutrients needed to create and establish a lush green lawn. Turf Special is suitable as a turf underlay for all lawn types or an economical topdressing material for buffalo.

source

Extracted VENM soil and sand from Soilco Pty Ltd Wogamia. Compost manufactured from recycled organics & certified to AS4454. Added Multigro Fertiliser and Gypsum

benefits

- :: Suitable turf underlay for all lawn types, including Sir Walter Turf.
- :: Well draining medium provides open base for quick turf root establishment.
- :: Organic matter provides slow releasing organic nutrients & water holding capacity.
- :: Gypsum increases CEC (cation exchange capacity) which enhances the ability to absorb nutrients. Also improves water holding capacity.
- :: Multigro is a balanced fertiliser, provides nitrogen and other essential food elements.
- :: Balanced blend provides good soil structure and microbiology.
- :: Easy to spread either manually or with a mechanical spreader.
- :: Ideal for domestic or commercial use.
- :: Can also be used as an economical topdressing for kikuyu or buffalo species.

characteristics

Specification	Turf Special	AS4419 - Natural Soil
Bulk Density	0.7 - 0.9m ³ per tonne	Greater than 0.7m ³ per tonne
Particle Size Grading	% Passing	Less than 8% in 10 20mm range
10mm	96 - 98%	Less than 2% in plus 20mm range
10 to 20mm	2 - 4%	
plus 20mm	0 - 2%	Acceptable for Natural Soil
Organic Matter	7.5%	3 - 15% Acceptable
Wettability	64 mm/minute	>5mm/min Acceptable
pH	7.0 - 7.2	5.5 - 7.5 Acceptable
EC	0.8 - 1dS/m	< Less than 1.2 dS/m

certified product

The five ticks of product approval means that Turf Special complies with the strict guidelines set by Standards Australia. Soilco is regularly audited to assure the guidelines for production are being adequately followed. Consumers can buy with confidence, knowing the product they are purchasing is highest quality. So when looking to buy garden mixes or compost soil improvers, ask for products certified to Australian Standard.



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Guide to Laying Turf

measuring & quantity calculations

Recommended application rate is minimum 50mm. For impoverished soils with poor drainage 100mm will depth will obtain improved turf performance.

To assess the quantity of Turf Special needed to give a certain depth of coverage, you first need to calculate the volume in cubic metres, then convert to tonnes.

For example - To apply underlay covering 100m² to 50mm depth::

$100 \times 0.05 = 5\text{m}^3$ turf special. At a Bulk Density of 1.2t/m³ the amount required would be $5\text{m}^3 \times 1.2 = 6$ tonnes.

ground preparation

All existing weeds, rubble or lawn should be treated or removed. Persistent species should be treated by a Glyphosate non-residual herbicide as indicated by the manufacturers instructions and this should be completed around 14 days prior to laying turf. Clay subsoil should be treated by the application of Gypsum at a rate of 1kg/ m² whilst acidic soils can be treated by the application of Lime.

When levelling off, take into account drainage directions. It is recommended that a lawn starter fertiliser be applied which provides Phosphorous to encourage root growth.

installing your lawn

Begin laying turf along the longest straightest boundary line. Butt and push edges against each other tightly without stretching, avoid gaps and overlapping. Stagger the joints in a brick-like fashion – corners and overhang can be cut with a sharp knife or spade to achieve the desired finish. After installing, use a roller to improve turf to soil contact and thus reduce any air pockets that may have formed in the laying process.

watering

Water your lawn within half an hour of installation. Enough water should be applied in the first watering to penetrate into the soil about 30-50mm. Continue watering, daily if necessary, and maintain a consistent moisture level in the turf and underlay for about the first two weeks. By this time roots should begin to be established and the watering regime can be adjusted to less frequent but deeper watering to encourage deep rooting, which assists in drought tolerance.

mowing

After about two to four weeks, dependant on season and variety, and when watering cycles are normal, the ground will have firmed a little, you can do your first mow. Just remove the tips of growth and this will aid in strengthening the root system and making the lawn robust and vigorous. Mowing heights for best appearance – Kikuyu: 15mm, Buffalos: 20mm.

fertilisers

As mentioned, apply a lawn starter fertiliser to the soil in preparation of laying the turf to encourage initial root growth and the general health of the grass. After this a typical fertiliser programme would include a slow release application prior to winter and a nitrogen application in Spring.

topdressing

For information on topdressing turf check out our organic topdressing fact sheet.

for more information

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