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# CENTENARY LANDSCAPING SUPPLIES

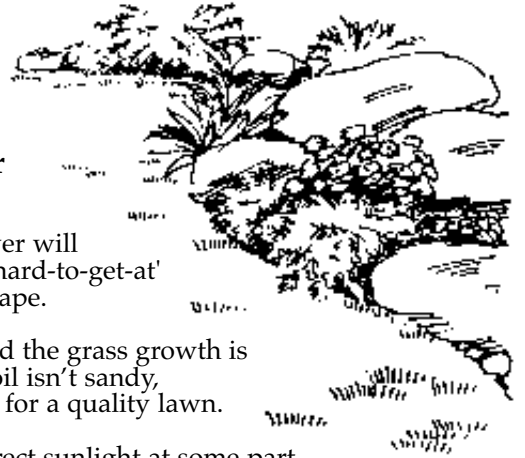
## Do it Yourself Landscape Guide

# How to establish a Luscious Green Lawn

## Designing your Lawn

Here's a few things you'll need to plan for before you SEED or TURF your lawn.

- \* A long narrow lawn will draw the eye along the length of the lawn. A feature such as a large tree or statue located at the far end of this type of lawn will enhance the visual effect.
- \* You may need to pave a pathway in heavy traffic areas. People stepping onto the lawn at the same place each time, will wear out the grass.
- \* Remember you'll have to mow your lawn! The lawn surface should not be too steep for the mower to negotiate. On sloping blocks terracing may be needed.
- \* If the ground is too uneven, the mower will shear the grass. And try not to create 'hard-to-get-at' corners or narrow strips in your landscape.
- \* Totally flat lawns don't drain well and the grass growth is poor - particularly in heavier soils. If soil isn't sandy, sub-surface drainage may be necessary for a quality lawn.
- \* All parts of the lawn must receive direct sunlight at some part of the day in order for the grass to grow well. Those areas under shady trees where the grass won't grow make a pleasant setting for outdoor furniture, paving or gravel.
- \* Avoid having grass planted right up under the eaves of the house. This will restrict rain from reaching it and, with less water, it won't grow as well as the rest of the lawn.



## Soils designed for Growing your Lawn

Soils ain't soils! And that's a fact. Most people give very little consideration to the type of soil that they are going to lay their new turf on or plant their seeds in. You can't just simply scrape up what soil is left lying around on a new block, or dig up your old soil and expect to see your new lawn thrive.

That's because this type of soil contains little or no organic matter. In no time, poor soil with little organic matter compacts and goes rock hard. Soil particles knit together and become tighter and tighter until there is no gaps at all. Water and fertiliser can't penetrate to the root system so therefore your lawn does not grow very well.

A Soil Mix called Turf Starter, is the best type of soil mix to grow a good healthy strong lawn. A mixture consisting of soil and other organic matter providing the grass and seeds with plenty of nutrients. There's also plenty of gaps allowing air, water and fertiliser to get to the root system effectively. And much better drainage for your lawn, less watering and less weeding. So you can see the benefits are enormous.

### The ideal Soil Mix for Laying Turf

#### TURF STARTER SOIL MIX

The same blend as Commercial Super. Add a lawn starter fertiliser, like Q5 or Organic Xtra, to provide a great base for your lawn to thrive. Just remember to use Special Blend for top dressing, not this Turf Starter as it has small pieces of bark in it. Spread to a depth of 100mm (4"). Many lawns are laid on little or no soil which then require a lot of fertiliser and watering. So give your lawn the best possible start and save dollars in the future.

### The ideal Soil Mix for Seeding a Lawn

#### SPECIAL BLEND TOP DRESSING

A blend that is a correctly proportioned mix of a finely sieved light sandy loam, composted sawdust and prilled organic chicken manure. This is an excellent product that is ideal for top dressing, seeding lawns and a fine light garden soil with a pH of 7. Remember to always add more fertiliser for your plants. It's nice and soft and easy to spread. It will give the seeds the nutrients they need to germinate and grow.

#### A1 TOP DRESSING

This lawn topdressing is a less expensive alternative to Special Blend Topdressing which of course is our first recommendation. However, this A1 is a careful mix of a light sandy loam, composted chicken manure and sawdust. With a mild farmyard fragrance it is rich in nutrients and microbial activity to bring new green healthy life to your lawn and sandy minerals to level your lawn. Use about 1 1/2m³ to about 100m² in area.

#### How to Calculate the Volume of Soil you will need

For both Seeding and Laying Turf you'll need to spread a good layer of Organic Soil to a depth of at least 3-4 inches. At this depth you'll need 1 cubic metre of soil to cover 10 m². It's difficult to be exact but do your sums first. Don't guess the measurements.

So for a 3-4 inch (or 10cm) depth ...

... Area in m² divided by 10 = volume of soil required in m³



1m³ of soil will cover this area to a depth of 4" of 10cm

# Should you Seed a Lawn or Lay Turf?

There's pros and cons to both, but generally your choice comes down to a matter of cost. Seeding a lawn costs less than half the cost per square metre of turf but seed is subject to fungal attack or birds. Turf is easy to lay and can be walked upon almost immediately while lawn seed takes up to three months to establish. You may also find that many of the best grasses are only available as turf.

## What type of grass should you choose?

The type of lawn you select will depend on your answer to a few questions like ... What amount of wear and tear will your lawn have to put up with? How much time are you prepared to spend on your lawn? Would you like your lawn to be the envy of your neighbours?

The four most popular types of grasses used in Queensland are Blue Couch, Green Couch, Winter Green and Greenleaves Park. All of these grasses are suitable for the warmer climate and each have varying degrees of tolerance to wear and tear and weed invasion. Some grasses require more maintenance than others. Just ask the team at Centenary Landscaping Supplies and they will help you decide what will suit your situation.

It's important you make the right decision. It will save you a lot of work later.

**Just a quick hint.** If frost appears on your lawn (spider like web) during the winter mornings, hose it off. Otherwise it will burn your lawn. The spider like web acts as a magnifying glass.

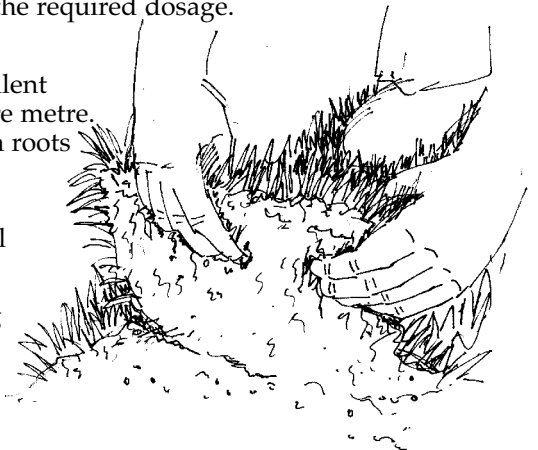
## How to Sow a Seed Lawn

Peg out the area to be sown in strips. Read the seed packet instructions and calculate the quantity required. Put the seed in a bucket and cast the seed, first in one direction, then at right angles for even distribution. Lightly rake the soil and move onto the next strip. When all the lawn is sown water with a spray or sprinkler. From now on the surface must be kept moist for the seed to germinate. Be careful not to let the water wash the surface soil away.

## How to Lay Your Turf

### Here's a list of step by step instructions on how to lay turf and achieve an excellent result

- Step 1:** You should remove any existing grass and weeds before the turf is laid. The best weed killer for the job is Round Up or Glypho which leaves no residue in the soil. The Turf Starter can be spread straight after spraying as it will still work under the soil.
- Step 2:** Lay at least 4 inches or 10 cm of Turf Starter Soil Mix and level out with a rake.
- Step 3:** Just before your final raking, sprinkle out a Pre-plant fertiliser at the required dosage. Organic Xtra, Eco 88, Tropic or Q5, is ideal for this purpose.  
  
N.B. If your organic soil is laid on a heavy clay base, it is an excellent idea to apply Gypsum at the rate of about 150 grams to one square metre. The Gypsum will help break up the clay and enable the new lawn roots to penetrate deeper into the sub surface.
- Step 4:** Give the whole area a light sprinkle with water to moisten the soil (this helps to stop the new turf from drying out)
- Step 5:** Always start laying the turf from the bottom of the slope working across the slope.
- Step 6:** Mound any soil up against the edge of any exposed turf edges.
- Step 7:** Roll the turf with a roller in both directions.
- Step 8:** Give grass a good light watering and keep watering regularly to keep the grass moist for at least 2-3 weeks.
- Step 9:** A very light top dress with Special Blend Top Dressing is strongly recommended. You can also use it to fill in any gaps between the pieces of turf.



To order your Soil and Fertiliser Supplies or for questions answered, please give us a call on 3373 4900. We're here to **SERVE YOU** and **DELIVER** to you 7 days a week



We're open 7 days a week  
Mon-Sat 6am-5pm  
Sun & Pub Hols 8am - 4.30pm

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