

Lawn Solutions Australia

Sir Walter Buffalo Specification Guide

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

Sir Walter DNA Certified Buffalo supplied from AusGAP accredited Lawn Solutions Australia growers comes with the exclusive 10 year product warranty .

Sir Walter DNA Certified



Sir Walter DNA Certified (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*) is a versatile, sod forming, warm season soft leaf Buffalo (St. Augustine) turfgrass that was originally discovered on the East Coast of Australia.

Being a locally-derived species it is naturalised to coastal seashore environments but is highly adaptive to a large range of climatic and soil conditions.

Sir Walter was selected in the Hunter Valley region of NSW as there was a need in the market place for a high quality, shade tolerant alternative to kikuyu, couch and common hard-leaf buffalo grasses.

The demanding Australian turf market was requiring a lawn that would perform equally well in full sun and shade, with good drought tolerance, was simple to maintain and looked good.

Today Sir Walter DNA Certified has become Australia's most popular and the country's biggest selling proprietary grass with over 60 million square metres sold Australia-wide.

Characteristics

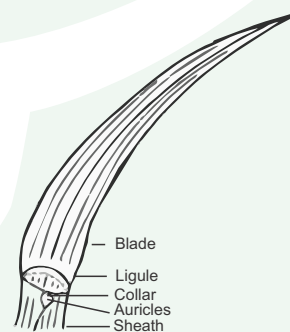
Sir Walter DNA Certified is an attractive turf grass with fast prostrate (horizontal) growth, purple/green stolon colour and a long dark green leaf blade that is highly infolded in mature turf, giving the grass a fine leaf appearance.

Sir Walter has a pleasing blue-green colour, and has excellent colour retention during the growing-season.

Sir Walter DNA Certified Buffalo is hardwearing in most demanding climates.

Sir Walter DNA Certified tolerates salt, shade, cold, heat and drought. It performs well with less maintenance, fertilisation and water than usually required by other Buffalos.

Sir Walter DNA Certified has become a very popular homeowner's and commercial grass, due to improved wear recovery, reduced weed problems and good performance with minimal maintenance requirements.



Plant Morphology

Vernation folded; sheaths compressed, keeled, loose, slightly ciliate toward the apex and along the margins; ligule an inconspicuous fringe of hairs about 0.3mm long; collar continuous, extending through a petioled area, broad, glabrous; auricles absent; blades usually flat, petioled, 4-10mm wide, glabrous, flexuous, bluntly acute apex; stems compressed and branching with extremely long, stout, creeping stolons having swollen nodes and short internodes, leaves clustered at each node.



Sir Walter DNA Certified

Soil Requirements

Sir Walter DNA Certified performs best on well drained, fertile, sandy loam soils having a pH in the range of 5.2 to 7.5 (tolerate 4.6 to 8.1).

For optimum results, a turf underlay soil such as Turfgro, should comply to Australian Standards AS4419-2003 and be applied at a depth of 100mm.

Sir Walter DNA Certified has a high tolerance to saline conditions and will perform as follows:

Electrical Conductivity	Performance
0 - 12 dS/m	Good
12 - 18 dS/m	Fair
Above 18 dS/m	Not Recommended

It is highly recommended to enhance the plant available soil water content of imported or site available soil by ameliorating with organic matter and or a Lawn Solutions Australia approved water retention additive, Lawn Launcher or similar - Please refer to the further information on wetting agents on the Lawn Solutions Australia Website.

Moisture

Sir Walter DNA Certified is classified as a drought-tolerant turf thus requiring low quantities of water in the form of irrigation or precipitation.

Sir Walter DNA Certified can also withstand temporary flooding and waterlogging.

A formula for water requirement is as follows:

Days between watering (D) =

$$\frac{\text{Available water in mm/cm depth for soil type (W)} \times \text{Root depth in cm (R)} \times 0.75 (F)}{\text{Net evaporation per day (E)} \times \text{Crop factor for grass (C)}}$$

(C) – Crop factors for various grass species are as follows:

Sir Walter DNA Certified 2.5
Couch & Kikuyu 4.5
Ryegrass and Fine Fescue 6.5

Temperature

Sir Walter DNA Certified has been shown to perform under extreme temperature conditions of between -5°C and 45°C but grows best at temperatures between 20°C and 38°C.

Sir Walter DNA Certified will survive under extreme temperature conditions of between -11°C to 50°C.

Sir Walter DNA Certified is able to survive frost conditions, will go into dormancy and brown-off considerably over winter in very cold regions yet will recover quickly and maintain good colour throughout warmer seasons.

Light

Sir Walter can withstand low-light intensity caused by prolonged periods of cloud, fog or smog conditions.

It performs well in shaded positions down to 30% sunlight and is therefore an exceptional performer for underneath trees, or part-shade from neighbouring structures.

Location

This salt-resistant turf is tolerant of salinity issues arising from wind blown salt on waterfront land and, as indicated in the soil requirements section, it is able to survive in conditions up to 18 dS/ m.



Sir Walter's DNA signature developed by the plant research campus of the University of Sydney shows how Sir Walter DNA Certified differs from other Buffalo varieties.



Sir Walter



Independently audited turf production to meet AusGAP specifications; ensuring adherence to Australia's highest-quality turfgrass Genetic Assured Purity certification program.



Specification Summary:

Provide turf of an even thickness obtained from a specialist turf grower.

Type: - Sir Walter DNA Certified
Stenotaphrum secundatum

Certification:

- DNA Certified by supplier
- Supplier to be AusGap certified
- Certifications to be provided prior to delivery to superintendent

Detail:

- Turf to be cut as 20mm sod
- Weed and pest free

Other:

- Turf to be laid within six hours of delivery and 24 hours of cutting on farm.
- Prior to laying apply Lawn Launcher starter fertiliser as per manufacturer recommendations.
- Lay turf parallel to contours on prepared surface with cross joints to be staggered and butt jointed together.
- Roll turf following laying to achieve consistent contact to soil profile.
- Water immediately following installation until topsoil layer is sufficiently moist and maintain as per establishment requirements.



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