

# Kikuyu Grass

(*Pennisetum clandestinum*)

## Turf and lawns



**Drought tolerant**



**Quality lawn**



**Erosion control**



**Wear tolerant  
and recovery**



**AgriCote**

Kikuyu is a versatile and popular turf species for roadsides, soil stabilisation, nature strips, lawns, sporting fields and other public areas looking for a soft drought tolerant turf species. Kikuyu is also suitable for forage for all grazing animals, beef, dairy, sheep, goat, horse and camel.

Preferring full sun, Kikuyu is renowned for its strong rhizome growth and excellent recovery characteristics post mowing, wear or grazing during summer and it can stand some dry conditions due to its deep root system. It can withstand moderate concentrations of NaCl for prolonged periods and under repeated mowing making it an excellent choice along coastal parks and foreshore turf areas.

## Key features

- Warm-season turf grass  
– light green colour
- Strong rhizome and stolon growth
- Responds well to N fertiliser
- Excellent drought tolerance with some salt tolerance
- Can withstand low mowing and heavy grazing
- Medium traffic tolerance
- Can tolerate higher Al/Mn soil levels
- Enhanced by AgriCOTE seed treatment

## Key benefits

- Confidence it will perform very well
- Excellent for erosion control
- Quality racetrack species
- Good choice for lawn, sportsfields where persistence is required
- Thrives under, constant mowing and heavy grazing maintain quality turf and palatable feed

## Establishment

Kikuyu is readily established from seed when soil temperatures are increasing above 18 degrees. Recommended planting times are spring through summer like bermudagrass however kikuyu can be dormant seeded over winter and will germinate when soil conditions are suitable.

Seed should be sown at a depth of 1–5 mm is ideal and is readily compatible with other species such as ryegrass for hydroseeding.

### Suggested sowing rates (Agricote) seed

**Turf:** 0.5–1 kg/100m<sup>2</sup>

**Dryland pasture:** 8–12 kg/ha

**Irrigated pasture:** 15–20 kg/ha

Good moisture conditions post sowing is essential for effective establishment.

## Application

Kikuyu is suited to Lawns, erosion control, sportsfields, public open spaces and forage grazing.

## Agronomy and management

Kikuyu responds well to Nitrogen fertilisers which are recommended every two months throughout the growing season and will provide a very persistent, high quality perennial grass that thrives under close mown or grazing situations.

Due to its ability to spread by stolons and rhizomes, it can form a dense sward suitable for erosion control. Due to this growth habit the turf can accumulate thatch which can be managed through scarification and low cut/scalping in late spring to allow fresh growth. Kikuyu growth can also be managed in a turf situation using growth regulators during summer which will shorten internode length and slow upright growth.

Kikuyu can become a weed problem due to its rhizomatous root system. Plants can also be propagated by stolons.



**Grow with  
Confidence**



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