

 **BARENBRUG**

# Curator Turf Production Guide

EDITION 2.1

**Grow with Confidence**



## Introduction

**Amenity, aesthetics and leisure are a vital part of the structure and tempo of our world. Barenbrug has an unsurpassed range of turf solutions for robust sporting activities, landscaping and pleasure pursuits. Many turf options are also crucial to support horticultural activities or to provide a good option for open spaces instead of pavement or bitumen. The backyard is an Australian institution, and there are few better ways to spend casual time than on a nicely grassed home lawn whether in peaceful solitude or with friends and family.**

Getting a new lawn right is very satisfying. It should not be taken on lightly however, and there are some important things to consider and do to help ensure best results. Spring and autumn are ideal times to plant lawn seed as there is usually adequate moisture and warm temperatures. Avoid very cold and hot dry months particularly if water restrictions are in place as germinating lawn seed must not be allowed to dry out. Sow seed at the rate recommended on the container.

The most important decision when establishing turf is choosing the correct variety or mix. However it is not always easy selecting the right seed blend that suits your situation and the desired outcome.

A few basic things to consider as part of your decision making process:

- Suitability to climatic region
- Quality of varieties
- Time of year when sowing
- Drought tolerance/water use
- Irrigation setup
- Wear tolerance
- Germination time
- Maintenance
- Shade

Barenbrug's Curator turf and lawn range has been specifically designed to suit variations in the Australian climate. Each blend has been developed to meet specific purposes including home lawns, shaded and drought affected areas, nature strips, landscaped regions, sports fields and soil erosion control. Each mix contains high quality seed with a minimum of 85% germination rates, providing the assurance you're receiving the highest genetic and physical quality.

The Curator range is available in 25kg and 5kg pack sizes for convenience.



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# Curator selection chart

Summer heat	Winter conditions	Desired use	Best for	Suitable species and variety	Page
Summer mild (most days < 32oC)	Cold winter, frosty sites	→ General purpose	→ Reliable good looking lawn	→ Hardwearing Curator quality turf	→ 5
			→ Budget option, speedy establishment	→ Village Green Curator quality turf	→ 5
		→ Lawn, parks and large areas	→ Fine lawn with shaded areas	→ The Shady One Curator quality turf	→ 6
			→ Premium lawn with good care available	→ The Perfectionist Curator quality turf	→ 6
			→ Low maintenance, fine lawn	→ Fine Fescue Truffle Mix Curator quality turf	→ 7
		→ Horticulture	→ Low maintenance and dry tolerant	→ Mow Saver Blend Curator quality turf	→ 8
			→ Winter growth and dry tolerant	→ Plantation Inter-row Blend Curator quality turf	→ 8
		→ Sporting areas	→ High wear and winter sports	→ Sportsfield Curator quality turf	→ 5
Summer hot (many days > 35oC)	Cold winter, frosty sites	→ General purpose	→ Deep rooted, warm and dry sites	→ Watersaver Turf Blend Curator quality turf	→ 7
		→ Fine lawn	→ New or oversowing	→ C4 Lawn Curator quality turf	→ 16
		→ General purpose	→ Open spaces or winter seeding droughted lawns	→ Super-Tuff Couch Curator quality turf	→ 16
			→ Aggressive ground cover	→ Super-Tuff Kikuyu Curator quality turf	→ 17

## Hardwearing

### Curator quality turf

A tough blend designed to last under harsh weather conditions and rugged use. Hardwearing blend germinates and establishes quickly and is highly recommended for high wear situations such as children's play areas and general back and front yards.



Species	%
Perennial ryegrass	86
Chewings fescue	5
Kentucky bluegrass	5
Highland bentgrass	4

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

## Village Green

### Curator quality turf

Village Green is a rapid establishing, hard wearing and economical all-purpose blend. It is suited to all lawns, nature strips, parklands and for general erosion control. It combines the ease of establishment with management, to make an all-purpose blend for any season. Perfectly suited to landscapers for fast results on disturbed areas.



Species	%
Perennial ryegrass	50
Annual ryegrass	45
Creeping red fescue	2
Kentucky bluegrass	2
Bentgrass	1

Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>



# The Shady One

## Curator quality turf

A blend selected for shade tolerance where other varieties may struggle. Produces a fine, low growing lawn that cuts to a dense swath with dark green colour. It is also suitable for sunny areas. An ideal blend for garden areas with part or full shade, requiring a fine looking lawn.



Species	%
Turf type ryegrass	50
Chewings fescue	50

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# The Perfectionist

## Curator quality turf

The Perfectionist blend is highly recommended for medium to large spaces requiring a nice dark green lawn. A durable blend for fine leaf lawns/turf producing a fast establishing, quality turf surface.



Species	%
Turf type ryegrass	90
Chewings fescue	5
Kentucky bluegrass	5

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Watersaver Turf Blend

## Curator quality turf

A dark green deep rooted, disease tolerant blend. It has good wear tolerance and suits most soil types. An ideal choice for home lawns.

Watersaver Turf Blend is also suitable for oversewing or patching up fescue based laid-sod lawns.



Species	%
RTF tall fescue	90
Kentucky bluegrass	10

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3-4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Fine Fescue Truffle Mix

## Curator quality turf

This blend contains 100% fine fescues and has been designed for low growing, low maintenance areas. With its short stature and shade tolerance, it is suitable for sites that require minimal inputs, and reduced mowing frequency such as trufferies, some orchard groves and vineyard situations, cemeteries and grass airstrips.



Species	%
Creeping red fescue	40
Hard or sheep's fescue	30
Chewings fescue	30

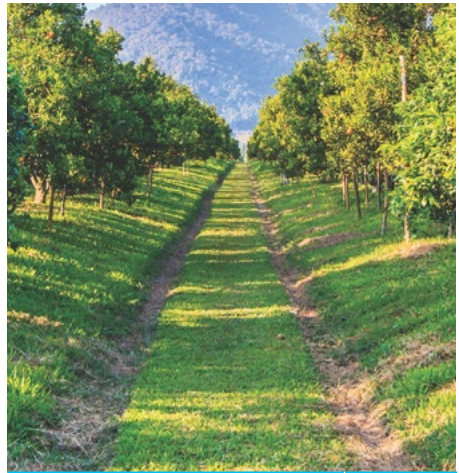
Sow at 1.5-2.5 kg /100m<sup>2</sup>



# Plantation Inter-row Blend

## Curator quality turf

Curator Plantation Blend is a winter active, semi summer dormant inter-row blend. It is specifically designed for plantation seeding including vineyards and orchards. It has winter growth and recovery providing wear tolerance for plantation machinery. Extreme drought tolerance provides a long term stand that won't require reseeding.



Species	%
Prosper winter active tall fescue	60
Rohan SPR ryegrass	20
Turf type tall fescue	20

Sow at 0.5–1.5kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Mow Saver Blend

## Curator quality turf

Curator Mow Saver is ideal for situations requiring minimal maintenance. This blend has improved drought tolerance and lower mowing requirements, making it perfectly suited to berry farms, vineyard inter-rows, cemeteries and industrial or estate situations that require infrequent maintenance once established.



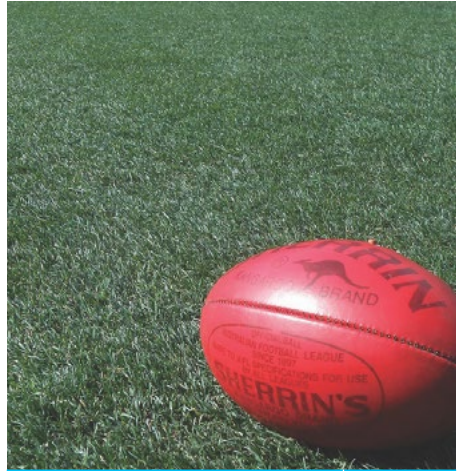
Species	%
Barrobusto turf tall fescue	80
Chewings fescue	10
Hard fescue	10

Sow at 1.5–2.5kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Sportsfield

## Curator quality turf

This blend has been designed specifically for use on sportsfields. This fine leaf ryegrass blend has fast germination complemented with high wear and recovery characteristics. It can be used for permanent cool season grounds or to oversow couch fields for winter wear.



Species	%
Continental turf type ryegrass	70
Intermediate turf ryegrass	30

Sow at 0.5–1.5kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

## Turf custom mixes

The Curator Turf range will suit many situations and applications.

There are however sometimes different expectations, conditions and use pattern requirements for turf and lawns.

Barenbrug has expertise in developing appropriate solutions for uses such as specific inter-row horticulture ground covers, roadsides, mine rehabilitation, race-tracks, ovals, and golf courses.

We welcome the opportunity to develop tailored packages for your specific sports, environmental or horticultural applications. A full range of custom blend options are available.

Please get in touch with your Barenbrug Territory Manager to develop turf blends for specific situations.

# Curator attributes chart

	Hardwearing	Village Green	The Shady One	The Perfectionist	Watersaver Turf Blend
<b>Contains 10% starter fertiliser</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Establishment speed</b>	Very fast	Very fast	Medium/fast	Medium/fast	Medium
<b>Wear/tear and self-repair</b>	Good	Good	Fair-good	Good	Very good
<b>Ornamental effect</b>	Good	Fair	Excellent	Excellent	Very good
<b>Mowing frequency</b>	High	High	Low - moderate	Moderate	Low - moderate
<b>Frost-sensitive</b>	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Drought tolerance</b>	Fair - Moderate	Fair	Moderate	Fair	Good
<b>Sow rates/100m<sup>2</sup></b>	3-4kg	3-4kg	3-4kg	3-4kg	3-4kg
<b>Sandy soil</b>	No	No	Possibly	No	Yes
<b>Heavier clay soil</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Ideal sowing times</b>	Year round - autumn and spring	Avoid summer	Autumn and spring	Autumn and spring	Autumn and spring
<b>Page number:</b>	5	5	6	6	7



Fine Fescue Truffle Mix	Plantation Inter-row	Mow Saver Blend	Sportsfield	C4 Lawn	Super-Tuff Couch	Super-Tuff Kikuyu
No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Slow	Fast	Medium	Fast	Fast	Medium	Medium
Good	Good	Good	Very good	Good	Summer good	Summer good
Excellent	Medium	Good	Good	Fair	Good	Fair
Very low	Moderate in winter	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Mod - high in summer	Higher in summer
No	No	No	No	Yes	Moderate	Moderate
Good	Excellent	Medium	Fair	Excellent	Good	Good
1.5–2.5kg	0.5–1.5kg	1.5–2.5kg	3–4kg	1–3kg	3–4kg	3–4kg
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Possibly
Early autumn and spring	March - June ideal and spring	March - mid May ideal and spring	March - June ideal and spring	Year round (warm areas only)	Spring and mid summer	Spring and mid summer
7	8	8	9	16	16	17

# Starting a new lawn

Lawn seed is a prime example of “you get what you pay for”, all Barenbrug turf mixes use quality seed products which have a minimum germination rate of 85%. Cheaper options often contain components that are only included to keep the price down. This can impact the overall result with the cheaper components lacking the quality and germination level required for a successful lawn. Below are some guidelines to help you establish your new lawn.



## Preparation

Successful lawn establishment requires a fine, well prepared seedbed free of weeds and other obstructions.



## Sowing Times

Spring and autumn are ideal times to plant lawn seed as there is usually adequate moisture and warm temperatures.



## Watering

Keep the soil moist at all times while the seed is germinating. Especially in the first five days it may be necessary to water for short periods several times a day if it is hot and dry.



## Mowing

Getting the mowing right for new lawns will help set up your lawn for the future.



## Fertilising

The best time to fertilise is generally before a period of good rainfall in autumn and spring, however it is best to follow the instruction of the fertiliser supplier. For further advice contact your local distributor.



- Remove all weeds and other grass types with a broad spectrum herbicide and leave for 10-14 days to ensure that all weeds have been killed.
- Remove any lumps, rocks, rubbish and plant material.
- Loosen the soil to a depth of 8cm and make the surface as even as possible avoiding humps and hollows where water will sit.
- Install watering and/or drainage systems at this stage.
- Sandy soil will require organic matter and clay soil will require gypsum.
- A new house site may have very little topsoil and may require topsoil to be added.

- Sow the seed at the rate recommended on the Curator seed container.
- Seed should be broadcast on the surface and then raked lightly into the soil providing good seed to soil contact, a lawn starter fertiliser should be incorporated at this time.
- Keep some seed in reserve to patch up any areas that were missed or get damaged while the lawn is establishing.
- Keep soil damp as germinating lawn seed should not be allowed to dry out for long periods.
- Avoid the very cold and hot dry months particularly if water restrictions are in place.

- Once the lawn has started to grow, water daily and then reduce watering as the lawn becomes established.
- It is better to water deeply once or twice a week to encourage deeper root growth than to sprinkle daily which will cause shallow rooting that will not sustain the lawn during drier periods.
- A wetting agent additive will help with water and nutrient retention.
- Do not water in the heat of the day and avoid night watering as this may encourage fungal diseases.
- Early morning or late afternoon are good times.

- Mow new lawns when the grass is 8-10cm high taking off only the top one third of the plant.
- Young grass can be damaged by close mowing.
- Do not mow when the grass and ground are damp and be careful not to drag the mower around corners as this can pull out the young plants.
- For established lawns no more than one third of the leaf should be removed each time, also increasing the mower height can allow the root system of the grass to develop and maintain grass density.
- Let the length of the grass determine when it is time to mow.

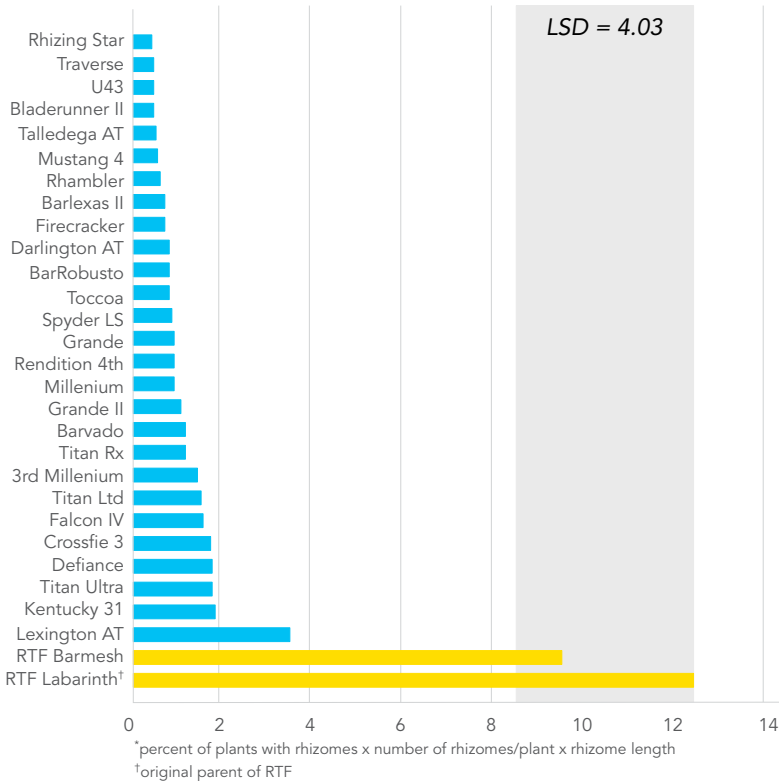
# RTF® (Rhizomatous Tall Fescue)

RTF® is a unique Turf Type Tall Fescue selected for superb colour, texture, disease resistance and self repairing capabilities. Its deep rooting system enables RTF to tolerate drought and heat exceptionally well. RTF lawn seed will grow beautifully in sun or shade allowing you to mow close and decrease your lawn maintenance.



## Rhizomatous Index\*

RTF® is the only true self repairing turf tall fescue



# Warm-season turf



The success of planting cool or warm-season grasses, lies in timing your seeding to suit your grasses optimal growth periods. As a rule cool season species best period of growth is between 30–40 days prior and post frosts and for warm season species when soil temperatures are rising above 16 degrees in spring.

## Monaco

### *Bermudagrass (couch)*

Exclusively from Barenbrug, Monaco is a synthetic variety produced by the intercrossing of five clonal parent lines for quality and performance. Monaco is excellent for use on golf courses, sports turf, and higher quality lawns. It has excellent density and wear tolerance.

Bred for a genetically darker green colour, it also has quicker spring green-up, high colour retention, and winter hardiness, Monaco will make a great addition to your landscape!

**Sowing rate:** 0.5–1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>

## Maya

### *Bermudagrass (couch)*

Rated one of the top varieties in the independent trials. Maya is a new variety of seeded bermudagrass from Barenbrug. In the NTEP (National Turfgrass Evaluation Program) trials Maya scored exceptionally well for improved turf performance, disease resistance, excellent colour and leaf texture. Being a seeded variety Maya will establish into a superior bermudagrass turf and has a wide range of adaptation.

**Sowing rate:** 0.5–1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>

## Transcontinental

### *Bermudagrass (couch)*

Transcontinental represents a new generation of improved turf quality, colour and performance. With improved cold tolerance for winter survival, it has been used in the NSW in full golf course fairway conversions with great success.

**Sowing rate:** 1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>



Monaco and Maya sportsfield - ACT

## C4 Lawn

### Curator quality turf

The C4 lawn blend is a combination of drought tolerant AgriCOTE Bermudagrass and quick establishing ryegrass for autumn/winter applications. The C4 lawn blend is designed to provide long term Bermudagrass cover, providing fast establishing dark green winter cover with the inclusion of turf perennial ryegrass. Suitable for lawn mixes during the autumn/winter period.



Species	%
Turf type ryegrass	50
Transcontinental AgriCOTE couch (Bermudagrass)	50

Sow at 1–3kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

## Super-Tuff Couch

### Curator quality turf

Super-Tuff couch is an economical blend of couch (Bermudagrass) with the added benefits of a companion grass. This dual action blend offers the homeowner or turf manager the fast establishment of ryegrass plus long-term persistence, water-saving and fine textured features of couch.



Species	%
Perennial ryegrass	50
AgriCOTE couch (Bermudagrass)	50

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Turf Kikuyu

## *Pennisetum clandestinum*

Kikuyu is a versatile and popular turf species for roadsides, nature strips, lawns, sporting fields and other public areas requiring soft-leaved drought tolerant turf. Preferring full sun, kikuyu is renowned for its strong rhizome growth during summer. It can tolerate some soil salinity and salt spray making it an excellent choice along coastal parks and foreshore turf areas.

### Kikuyu features

- Warm-season turf grass – light green colour
- Excellent for erosion control
- Prefers full sun
- Excellent drought tolerance with some salt tolerance
- Preferred lawn mow height 25–50 mm
- Medium traffic tolerance
- Enhanced by AgriCOTE seed treatment

### Sowing

Spring & Summer  
0.5–1.5kg/100m<sup>2</sup>  
1–5mm depth

# Super-Tuff Kikuyu

## *Curator quality turf*

Super-Tuff Kikuyu is an economical blend companion grass. This dual action blend of turf kikuyu with the added benefits of a offers the homeowner fast establishment of ryegrass plus the long-term persistence and water-saving features of kikuyu.



Species	%
Perennial ryegrass	75
AgriCOTE Kikuyu	25

Contains starter fertiliser. Sow at 3–4kg /100m<sup>2</sup>

# Other warm season turf grasses

## Carpet Grass

*Axonopus fissifolius*

Narrow leaf Carpet Grass is a perennial creeping grass which makes a dense turf with shiny leaves. It is a low-profile, low-maintenance grass which has the ability to perform well in a wide variety of soil conditions. It may become or be used as a dominant species in lower fertility situations. Carpet grass is suited to the tropics, sub tropics and some warmer temperate regions. Carpet grass performs very well in the shade and can also grow in full sun making it very adaptable species. Because of its prostrate growth and dense turf, carpet grass can be used as a straight lawn seed or in mixtures with other warm climate grasses for interrow situations, erosion control, and playing fields.



### Sowing

Spring & Summer  
1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>  
5mm depth

## Pensacola Bahia

*Paspalum notatum*

Pensacola Bahia grass is the most popular variety of Bahia. It has long, slim (narrow) leaves with a root system to depths of 2 meters. Pensacola has better cold-tolerance than other Bahia's and excellent drought-resistant with better shade tolerance than bermudagrass. In southern Queensland, it is a major perennial grass weed species in parks and urban open space areas. Pensacola bahia's ability to withstand drought better than most other grasses makes it well suited to low maintenance areas with limited irrigation. It is used turf situations such as roadsides, lawns, inter-rows situations and airports. Seeds can take a longer time to germinate, but once established, Pensacola becomes a dominant turf species due to its robust root system and dense mat of stolons and rhizomes.



### Sowing

Spring & Summer  
3–4kg/100m<sup>2</sup>  
5mm depth



## Queensland Blue Couch

### *Digitaria didactyla*

Queensland blue couch is an excellent choice to produce a soft, fine leaf grass lawn which as its name suggests has a blue-green tinge. It is ideal for tropical and sub-tropical areas, where it grows well on a wide range of neutral to acid soils. In Queensland, it is tolerant of very acid soils (pH 5.5 and lower) and is a very dominant grass when compared to other warm season varieties, particularly under low fertility conditions. It has good drought tolerance and recovers well from drought following rainfall events.

QLD blue couch doesn't have great shade tolerance when compared to other warm season varieties. It is however tolerant of temporary waterlogging.



#### **Sowing**

Spring & Summer  
1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>  
1–5mm depth

## Zoysia

### *Zoysia japonica*

Zoysia is a very slow growing low maintenance grass. This means less time mowing, and despite having runners that allow the grass to spread, it won't be overtaking lawns or inter-row situations too quickly.

Zoysia is hardy and can withstand heavy use, being very resistant to damage. Zoysia doesn't need an overly fertile soil or a strict fertiliser regime to perform. Zoysia turf is an excellent choice for shade, coping well with 40% shade for wear areas, and 50% shade for low wear areas perfect for grassed areas that have overhanging foliage.



#### **Sowing**

Spring & Summer  
1kg/100m<sup>2</sup>  
1–5mm depth

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