



Empire

Zoysia japonica 'SS500' PBR



Empire has a dark green colour that is retained all year round except under frost. The texture of the leaf is wide and coarse, but relatively soft compared to other Zoysia Varieties.

It has a moderate to good shade tolerance, excellent wear and drought resistance once established.

Empire is a very slow growing grass, making it an excellent choice for small gardens. Due to its slow growth habits it is not advised to install Empire during the cooler winter months.



AESTHETICS

Under harsh sun or in temperate winters, it stays greener. When other lawns are losing their colour, its deep blue coloring is absolutely stunning. Mown with a cylinder mower this easily displays the stripping effect. Small leaf blade (5- 7mm). Well proportioned to shrinking lot sizes.

ENVIRONMENTAL

"Empire" has deep roots and a tight thatch matrix to keep moisture in and most weeds out. Its slow metabolism means less water, fertiliser and mowing requirements.



DURABILITY

Extremely durable and drought resistant once established.

MAINTENANCE

"Empire" is also resistant to many insect and fungal pests. The lower fertiliser requirements means less spraying for you and safer for the environment.

USES

Residential & commercial lawns, swimming pools surrounds, coastal areas, full sun or shade.

Turf Reference

Maintenance Required
Low

Disease Resistance
High

Self Repairing
Medium

Drought Tolerance
High

Shade Tolerance
High

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EMPIRE TURF MANAGEMENT GUIDE



SOIL PREPARATION

- For best result, cultivate, till or spade the area to a depth of 100 to 150 mm.
- Eliminate drainage problems by having soil slope away from foundations, etc
- Cultivate or rake in the fertilizer, lime, organics, compost, etc. as needed to a depth of 50 mm to 150 mm.
- Rake and smooth soil removing rocks, roots, and large clods.
- Roll the area with a lawn roller. This will firm the soil surface and reveal low areas that need more soil.
- Keep the grade 25mm below sidewalks and driveways for the new turf to sit into.
- Water the prepared area to settle the soil and provide a moist base for turf.



TURF INSTALLATION

- Apply a pre plant fertiliser like Sir Launcher which contains a pre plant fertiliser and water crystals. Rake this into the surface.
- Prior to laying turf check that the soil surface is not too hot. Wet the soil down if soil is hot.
- Install your lawn immediately upon delivery. Turf is degrading in the pallet so all turf must be laid within 12 hours of delivery.
- Begin installing turf along the longest straight line, such as a driveway or sidewalk. Butt and push ends against each other tightly, without stretching. Stagger the joints in each row in a brick-like fashion, using a large sharp knife to trim corners, etc.
- On slopes, place the turf pieces across the slope.
- After installing the turf, roll the entire area to improve turf-soil contact.
- Begin watering lawn within 30 minutes of installation. Turf is a living plant that requires ground contact and moisture.
- During first two weeks, avoid heavy or concentrated use of your new lawn. This gives the roots an opportunity to firmly knit with the soil, and insures that the turf will remain smooth.

TURF ESTABLISHMENT

- **Installation:** We recommend 10Litres of per m2 on installation. To calculate how long it will take to water in your new lawn, time how long it takes to fill a 10 litre bucket then divide the time by 10 and multiply by the square meters of lawn you have.
- **Week One:** Water up three times a day, during the day for the first week, This will help replace lost moisture in the turf.
- **Week Two:** Roots should have formed so watering can be reduced to once per day but watering should be longer to encourage the roots to search deeper.
- **Week three:** Water a couple of times per week. Again increase the watering time to encourage deep rooting. Full establishment could take between one and three months depending upon the season etc. You should be mowing your new lawn by now. Never mow off more than 1/3 of the leaf at any one time.

WATERING

- Generally watering will be seldom required once fully established.
- Infrequent deep watering is always recommended on all grasses to help promote a deep root system. This may be once or twice per week.
- Signs of drought stress are a blue tinge and shrivelling of the leaf. Leaf death is swift if left unchecked.

FERTILISING

- Fertilise in early spring, early summer and early autumn to promote growth.
- Sandy soils will require more frequent fertilising.
- Use good quality slow release fertiliser like "Sir Walter Premium Lawn Food".
- In the spring apply mineral and organic fertilisers like lime, blood and bone and Ausmin.



MOWING

- In full sun areas mown between 12-50mm.
- Shaded areas require a higher height of cut of between 50-70mm.
- Regular mowing with sharp blades is recommended for all lawns. Frequency will depend on growth rates at the time.

PESTS

- **Lawn grubs:** Damage can occur but a healthy lawn should recover quickly. Most pesticides are suitable for use on Aussiblu.
- **Weeds:** Usually only occurs in areas where the lawn is not healthy. This may be caused from excessive shade, high wear or poor nutrition. Do not use products containing Dicamba, DSMA, or MSMA. Always check the label for suitability on couch grass.

With all pesticides ALWAYS CHECK THE LABEL.

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