

## New Laid Lawn Care Guide

### WATERING

In spring, summer and autumn, watering is usually necessary to establish a new lawn. If there is significant rain, enough to penetrate and make soil wet well below the surface, then you may skip watering for a day or so. Whilst new turf is establishing, monitor moisture levels by looking under the turf at least twice daily and ensure that the turf and soil always remains moist. This may mean you need to water several times a day in hot, dry conditions.

### MOWING

Usually this can start about 2-3 weeks after installation once the roots have grown down into the soil. Ensure the ground is firm underfoot before mowing. If necessary, use of a light roller can smooth any small lumps and bumps prior to the first mow. Mowing height should be between or 30 -50mm for Tall Fescue or 20 - 30mm for Fine Rye grass lawn. Never shave a lawn, unless you wish to encourage weeds, and only remove 1/3 of growth at any time. If your lawn has a lot of shade, raise the mower 1 notch during winter, so the leaf can catch more light for photosynthesis.

### FEEDING

For best results use a good quality lawn fertiliser. Apply as per instructions on the fertiliser bag each month using a spin spreader (inexpensive and available from DIY stores). Apply fertiliser in cool conditions, never during the heat of the day. Water it in if the weather is dry. Utilise the good spring and autumn growing seasons to maximise the grass growth and assist the lawn to grow over any thin areas that occur in the summer or winter.

### WEEDS

Broad leaf weeds can be hand weeded when the odd one appears. Selective weed sprays are available and are best applied in the spring and autumn to help keep weeds out most of the time. Poa grass is the most difficult weed to keep out. Less frequent but deep irrigation and regular feeding to maintain lawn density and competition will help. Monthly use of 'Expo' spray can help reduce poa germination. For broadleaf use "TurfEX" spray, available from Mitre 10 or Bunnings. If you are having problems killing difficult weeds, contact a Lawn Maintenance Contractor.

### INSECT PESTS

Black Beetle and Argentine Stem Weevil are the most common pests, and each can ruin a lawn. The most effective control method is to call in a qualified lawn maintenance professional to do a preventative spray in the spring. Professional

### LAWN MAINTENANCE

Contact a lawn maintenance contractor.