

## How to Install Nara Native Turf

1. Remove all building waste & weeds.
2. Spread a free draining soil to a depth of 7-15cm (roots can penetrate much deeper) or loosen ground and mix in appropriate soil conditioners. Phone a soil supplier for more advice on this option. For sandy soils, simply mix in organic material and rotary hoe.
3. Level the surface using a screeding board, lawn leveler, rake or similar device.
4. Apply a low analysis fertilizer with an N:P:K of approximately 5:6:5 or lawn starter fertilizer to the surface and incorporate with a rake, or alternatively wait until 3 weeks after laying turf and apply a slow release fertilizer like Scotts Lawn builder.
5. In hot months, moisten the soil but do not make the soil too wet. Do not lay the Nara native turf on hot, dry soil.
6. Lay the Nara native turf as soon as possible after delivery.
7. On hot days, lay a section of the Nara native turf and lightly water. Repeat until all turf is laid. On cool days, the Nara native turf can be laid all at once. Roll and water thoroughly within one hour of laying turf.
8. Water thoroughly for 10-21 days or until the Nara native turf is established take care that the water is saturating the soil beneath the turf. In colder months, the Nara native turf will take longer to establish. The turf should not dry out until roots are established. It is best to avoid laying Nara Native turf in the following months in certain regions. Tasmania, Victoria, SA, WA avoid laying from 25<sup>th</sup> of April to 25<sup>th</sup> of August. Sydney avoid laying from the 15<sup>th</sup> of May to the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. Brisbane north Nara can be layed at anytime of the year. This is the same for all Zoysia types.
9. When the soil has firmed and the Nara native turf has rooted down, usually 2-4 weeks after laying (longer during winter), mow lightly to tidy up your new Nara lawn.



## Watering Tips

### Watering your New Nara native Lawn

Newly installed Nara native turf has very important watering needs. Proper watering immediately after installation will ensure the Nara native turf becomes established, and it will also have an impact on how well the Nara lawn continues to flourish for years to come. Begin watering new Nara native turf within a half hour after it is laid on the soil. Apply at least 2 to 3 cm (1 inch) of water so that the soil beneath the lawn is very wet. Ideally the soil 7 to 10 cm. (3 to 4 inches) below the surface should be moist.

#### Below are some watering tips for new Nara lawns:

1. Pull back a corner of the Nara native turf and push a screwdriver or other sharp tool into the soil. It should push in easily and have moisture along the first 7 to 10 cm (3 or 4 inches), or you need to apply more water.
2. Make absolutely certain that water is getting to all areas of your new Nara lawn, regardless of the type of sprinkling system you use. Corners and edges are easily missed by many sprinklers (if windy) and are particularly vulnerable to drying out faster than the centre portion of your Nara lawn. Also, areas near buildings dry out faster because of reflected heat and may require more water.
3. Runoff may occur on some soils and sloped areas before the soil is adequately moist. To conserve water and ensure adequate soak in, turn off the water when runoff begins, wait 30 minutes to an hour and restart the watering on the same area. Repeating this start and stop process until correct soil moisture is achieved. For the next two to three weeks keep the below-turf soil surface moist with daily (or more frequent) watering. Especially hot, dry or windy periods will necessitate increased watering amounts and frequency.
4. As the turf starts to establish its new roots into the soil, it will be difficult, impossible and/or harmful to pull back a corner to check beneath the turf, but you can still use a sharp tool to check moisture

- depth by pushing it through the Nara native turf and into the soil.
5. Water as early in the morning as possible to take advantage of the daily start of the grass's normal growing cycle, usually lower wind speeds and considerably less water loss because of high temperature evaporation.
  6. If the temperature approaches 37°C (100 F), or high winds are constant for more than half of the day, reduce the temperature of the Nara native turf surface by lightly sprinkling the area. This sprinkling does not replace the need for longer, deeper watering, which will become even more critical during adverse weather conditions. In really hot periods laying shade cloth over the top for the first five days can help.
  7. After the Nara native turf is established, infrequent and deep watering is preferred to frequent and shallow watering because the Nara native turf roots will only grow as deeply as its most frequently available water supply. Deeply rooted grass has a larger "soil-water bank" to draw moisture from and this will help the grass survive drought and hot weather that rapidly dries out the upper soil layer.



## **Maintenance Tips**

### **Mowing your Nara Lawn**

1. Mow every 7-18 days in the hot months depending on how much fertilizer is applied; mow every 4-8 weeks in the colder months.
2. Mowing height will vary: 2-5cm in sunny/lightly shaded situations, 5-7cm in heavier shaded situations.

### **Watering your Nara Lawn**

1. Water thoroughly and regularly after Nara native turf has been laid to encourage a deep and vigorous root system (the Nara native turf will be able to fossick for water and therefore be more able to withstand hot dry conditions).
2. Once the root system has fully established, water thoroughly only when needed-when a slight wilting is visible, usually once every 7-10 days in summer (on sandy soils more often), with much less or no water in cooler months. If water restrictions occur during summer, an established Nara lawn will not die, as in most populated parts of Australia it will simply brown off and reshoot green when the rains return. In desert areas like Perth, occasional watering will be required in summer to keep Nara alive.
3. Remember that infrequent, deep watering promotes a healthy lawn.
4. Over watering encourages excessive growth, disease and root rot.
5. It is best to water in the early morning; night watering is not recommended.

### **Fertilizing your Nara Native turf**

1. In high wear areas Nara needs to be fed at least 3 to 4 times per year to remain strong and healthy. In low to moderate wear areas, Nara can get by with a slow release fertilizer twice per year - once in April, once in September. We recommend that you use higher rates of fertilizer in early September.
2. The best fertilizer to use is a slow release type like Lawn builder. Use it at the higher rate on the label.
3. If you desire a quick green up in spring, use a fertilizer high in nitrogen to promote a lush green lawn- e.g. Supergreen or organic based slow release fertilizers. In the heat of summer avoid over fertilizing or using manure based products.

## **Pests, Weeds and Diseases**

Nara native turf is resistant to pests, weeds and fungi compared to most other turf varieties, but as with any natural product, occasional problems can occur. If these problems occur we recommend the following:

1. Pests - watch for the lawn grub (e.g. web worm or army worm) and African black beetle- apply suitable pesticides according to directions.
2. Weeds - if weeds infest, hand eradicate before seed head develops or apply a suitable weedicide (ask your local garden centre.) Nara is resistant to many chemicals that kill weeds. Make sure the herbicide you use says that it is OK to use on Zoysia.