

Isabella®

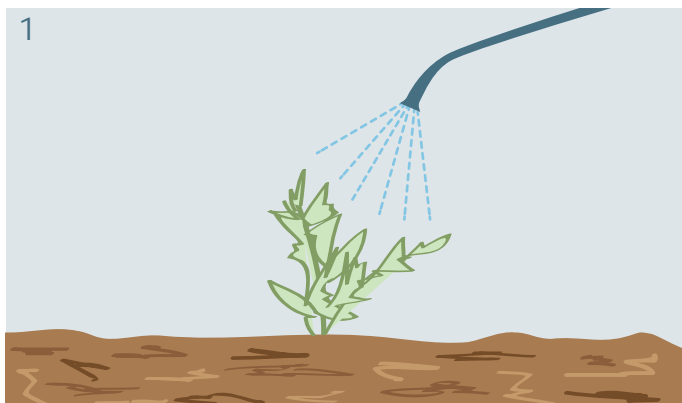
Liriope muscari 'LIRF' A

FOLIAGE FIRST RANGE

Installation guide & care instructions

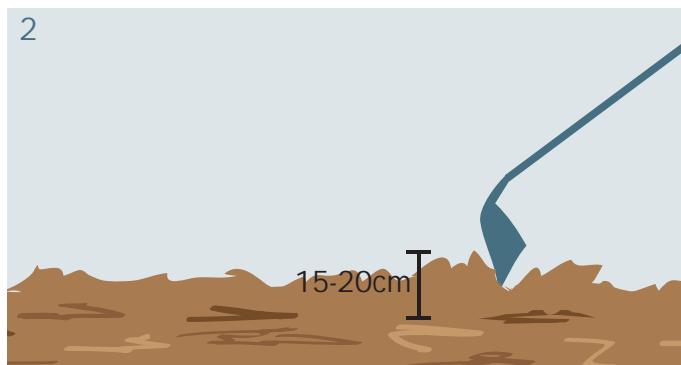
Installing Isabella® as a lawn

1



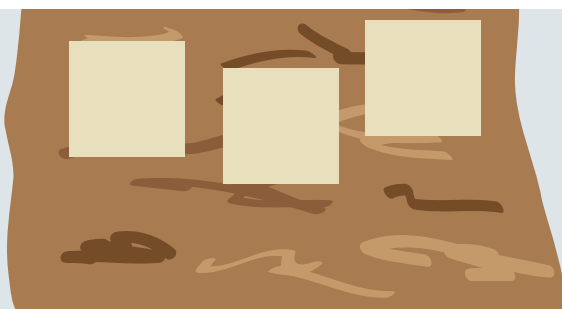
If necessary remove all weeds from the area where your Isabella lilly turf is to be installed. Use Round-Up to kill weeds and other grass.

2



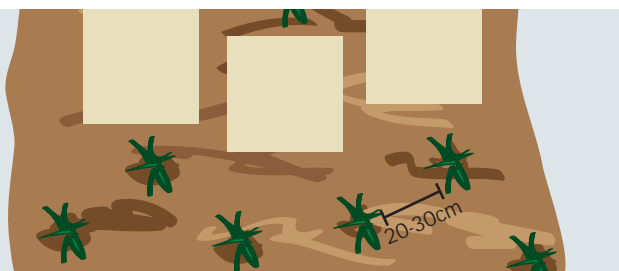
When the area is weed-free, till the soil by hand or with a rotary hoe to a depth of 15-20 cm. If the soil is poor, incorporate some organics in to it. Remove any rocks or debris.

3



Place any stepping stones at this stage. Use pavers, or natural rock stepping stones as a path to walk on. The minimum size stepping stone should be 40cm, but 50cm allows for easier walking. Leaving natural looking gaps between the stones for the Isabella to grow through really looks great.

4



Plant each individual plug 20-30 cm apart. For 20 cm spacings - 12 plugs per m². For 30 cm spacings - 6 plugs per m². If your budget allows, the 12 per m² rate will usually form a lawn faster within 9 to 12 months, while the 6 per m² rate will take 18 to 24 months. Whilst planting, use a small amount of 8 to 9 month slow release fertiliser in each hole.

5



Make sure you mulch the planting bed. The Mulch can be spread prior to planting or after. If using the higher rate, spreading the mulch first is easier. Use a chunky mulch with no fine grade particles, like a hard wood chip or chunky bark mulch, as this type of mulch is good at suppressing weeds. Don't worry, when it comes time to mow your Isabella each July, the mower will mow slightly above the mulch.

Installing Isabella® as a border

Follow steps 1-5 as a guide, keeping in mind that it is going to be a border, not a ground cover. Plant 6 Isabella per linear metre if you are happy to wait 14 to 20 months for a border, or plant 12 per metre for a full looking border in approximately 5 to 10 months. Preferably plant in a chunky mulch that is 50mm deep to prevent weeds.

Isabella® lawn care instructions

MOWING

In Sydney, Brisbane and Perth regions mow the Isabella towards the end of July. In tropical areas, mow the Isabella in early to mid July. In Melbourne and Canberra mow in mid August. These are the best times to mow Isabella. Mow using a catcher to collect clippings once per year at the recommended time.

It is ideal to mow the Isabella before it reshoots, which it usually does as soon as the weather warms up a little. So if you know what you are doing, you can monitor the Liriope for signs of new shoot growth and mow it back at the first sign of this new growth, or simply mow it at the suggested times.

Mow just above ground level of the mulch or soil (4-5cm). If you do not mow the plant will not look as fresh when it reshoots in spring, and it will get a little taller.

By mowing once per year the maximum height will be around 15-20cm. If unmown it will reach 30cm. Isabella makes lots of new shoots in early spring, and they grow up to approximately 7 cm quite quickly. They then take the rest of the year to reach 15-20cm.

Never mow in the warm hot months. By mowing once per year, any discolouration of the leaves are removed leaving a fresh clean lawn area.

FERTILISER

Fertilise each spring with an 8-9 month slow release fertiliser, or do it just after you have mown.

WEEDS

Remove any weed growth, particularly at the grow-in phase. Once the Isabella is thick, it is excellent at smothering weeds.

If grass weeds such as Couch or Kikuyu invade it, you can hire a weed specialist to kill these out with a chemical called Fusilade. These specialists should follow the instructions on the label for your particular region.

Isabella® border care instructions

REMOVING SPREADING SHOOTS

When used as a border, removing spreading shoots at least once or twice per year from the inside of the border or undesired spots is very important, other wise it will eventually spread into the garden. A suggested option is to mow the border once per year.

MOWING

In Sydney, Brisbane and Perth regions mow the Isabella border towards the end of July. In tropical areas, mow the Isabella in early to mid July. In Melbourne and Canberra mow in mid August. These are the best times to mow the Isabella. Mow using a catcher to collect clippings once per year at the recommended time.

If you cannot mow due to obstacles or other reasons, use a brush cutter and

collect the cut leaves. It will reshoot new leaves quickly in spring.

Plants like Mondo will need less thinning on the inside of the border (removal of spreading shoots), but Isabella can be mown, so it is easier to keep looking fresh. Isabella needs far less removal of brown, dead leaves.

Mondo is too slow to reshoot to mow like Isabella, and you spend almost as much time removing brown, dead leaves from Mondo as you do removing the spreading shoots of Isabella from the garden.

Mondo usually looks horrible in full sun while Isabella doesn't. Liriopes reshoot much faster in spring than Mondo, which is why fine leaf Isabella is a much better choice.

FERTILISER

Use an 8 to 9 month slow release fertiliser just after mowing or in early spring.

WEEDS

Remove any weed growth, particularly at the grow-in phase. Once the Isabella is a thick border, it is excellent at smothering weeds.

If grass weeds such as Couch or Kikuyu invade it, you can hire a weed specialist to kill these out with a chemical called Fusilade. These specialists should follow the instructions on the label for your particular region.