



HUME CITY COUNCIL

LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

Turf treatments

General requirements

- Turf treatments are to be restricted to sites where slope gradients are not greater than 1:4, and where adjacent grades do not impede maintenance access (ie result in unmown valleys or scalping)
- Use warm season grasses with creeping or rhizomatous growth, except where otherwise specified below.
- Artificial turf is not acceptable for nature strips and is only used for designated sporting facilities in Hume.

Site preparation

Prior to installation, the area is to be cleared of weeds, rubbish, debris, lumps and sods, levelled, lightly compacted and top dressed with a minimum of 100mm of site or imported topsoil.

Existing site topsoil must be tested prior to use, and ameliorated appropriately in accordance with the soil test recommendations.

Installation Methods

- Instant Turf (most reliable and preferred)
- Hydromulching (this method is preferred over hydroseeding, as it assists water retention, and holds seed in place until after germination)
- Sprigging/line planting
- Direct drilling/over-sowing
- Hydroseeding

Drainage

Shaping of turf areas and use of passive irrigation to direct run-off onto grass and garden beds is encouraged.

Sports fields

Sports field design is a specialist field, and the requirements vary for different sports, and different

playing levels within those sports. A separate planning and approval process is required, in collaboration with Council's Coordinator Turf Management.

Naturestrips / verges / medians

The landscaping of naturestrips requires a permit and is limited to approved treatments as outlined in Council's Naturestrip Guidelines (see links section below).

Where medians are grassed, the turf section is to be a minimum of 3m wide, to allow for mowing and turning circles for mowers.

Additional requirements for development sites

Prior to Statement of Compliance, all disturbed areas (including nature strips, batters, allotments with grades of 1:5 and greater, and reserves) are to be reinstated to a clean, tidy condition, levelled, top dressed, lightly compacted and hydromulched.

Naturestrip landscaping adjacent to all new Council reserves is subject to approval as part of the planning permit process.

In addition, for lots with grades of 1:5 and greater, a 5m wide edge to the front boundary of lots is to be stabilised by hydromulching prior to SOC. Hydromulching seed mix delivery dockets are to be provided and works are to be signed off by Council officers.

Grass is to have a minimum 80% coverage to Council satisfaction prior to the commencement of the maintenance period.

References

Road Reserves and Traffic Treatments

Standard Drawing:

- Edging - Spade SLD-4.2

Turf species

| Location | Method | Species mix | Common name | Rate |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| Irrigated reserves, high profile civic open space | Instant turf | <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i> | Kikuyu | n/a |
| Reserves, nature strips, kickabouts | Instant turf | <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i> | Kikuyu | n/a |
| | Hydroseed For Hydromulch add Cellulose Fibre Soil binder, specifically manufactured for Hydromulching, used at manufacturer's recommended rates. (e.g. Organic Gaur Tackifiers) | <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i> <i>Lolium perenne</i> <i>Festuca</i> <i>Festuca arundinacea</i> | Kikuyu Perennial Rye Creeping Red Fescue Fine Leaf Fescue | 40kg/ha 200kg/ha 100kg/ha 100kg/ha |
| Revegetation, Erosion Control & Creek Corridors | Direct seed; hydroseed | <i>Lolium perenne</i> Turf <i>Lolium perenne</i> Victoria <i>Elymus repens</i> * <i>Festuca rubra</i> or <i>Festuca arundinacea</i> | Turf Perennial Rye Vic Perennial Rye Couch* Creeping Red Fescue or Fine Leaf Fescue | 100kg/ha 100kg/ha 60kg/ha 40kg/ha |
| | | <i>Festuca rubra ssp commutata</i> | Chewings Fescue | 40kg/ha 60kg/ha |
| *Where <i>Elymus repens</i> (Couch) is not acceptable (eg near waterways), substitute with: | | | | |

