**SUPERLAWN**

**Turfgrass Species**

The following listed and described grasses are only a brief selection of the grasses that are grown by Top Crop Nursery. The Superlawn bulletin describes all the grasses with more technical information.

A sun indicates the ability of the grass or groundcover to withstand heat. In this case, the grass or groundcover is moderately tolerant of high temperatures.

The tree is an indication of whether the grass or groundcover will grow in shade. The number 3 indicates full shade; 2 is for semi-shade; and 1 means the variety requires full sun.

The snowflake gives a measure of the frost tolerance of each of the varieties. This particular icon indicates that the grass or groundcover is susceptible to frost.

The cloud indicates the water requirements of the grass or groundcover. Those with a 3 in the centre have high water requirements and therefore would not be suitable for dry areas, whereas a 1 would indicate high drought tolerance.

A number of the grasses have a salt cellar in the margin. This shows that the grass is able to withstand salty or saline conditions.

**Berea grass** *Dactyloctenium australe*

**Habitat:**
Berea grows well in coastal belt regions in minor frost areas. Because the grass adapts itself readily to semi-shade it can be used for such areas.

**Country Club grass** *Paspalum vaginatum*

**Habitat:**
*Paspalum vaginatum* grows in harsh conditions where soils are saline (often near the seashore, on banks of coastal rivers; around salt pans).

**Kearsney grass** *Axonopus compresses*

**Habitat:**
*Axonopus compresses* favours moist ground and waste places, particularly disturbed areas such as roadsides and paths in high rainfall forest areas. It appears to prefer sandy soils or sandy barns that are damp, but not waterlogged. It will also grow readily under fair, dense shade.

**Buffalo grass** *Stenotaphrum secondatum*

**Habitat:**
Buffalo is reputed to exhibit exceedingly good growth when planted in alkaline, sandy soils. This grass favours shady, damp places in coastal bush, forest and plantation. It grows well under good moisture conditions.

Grows semi-shade areas, binds recent sands, domestic lawns.
Kikuyu grass *Pennisetum clandestinum*

**Habitat:**
Kikuyu does not particularly like saline soils, but grows well on any well drained fertile soil. It has a wide adaptability, but does prefer neutral, medium textured soils. Kikuyu is usually intolerant of shade. For ideal growth, high rainfall is necessary. Kikuyu has high cold, frost, acid tolerance and its resistance to disease and weeds is good.

**Uses:** Sportsfields, reclamation, road verges, erosion control, domestic lawns, pastures

Bayview *Cynodon transvaalensis* variety

**Habitat**
It is very hard wearing, frost resistant and drought tolerant. It is, however, fairly susceptible to disease, but with good management it can be grown into a very useful turf.

**Uses:** Sportsfields, domestic lawns, golf courses, cricket pitches

Royal Blue *Cynodon transvaalensis* variety

**Habitat:**
Adapted to a wide range of soil conditions. It must be planted in full sunlight as its ability to withstand shade is very poor. It can be planted widely, over most of South Africa, and will tolerate fairly high levels of frost. Therefore both heat and cold tolerance is good.

Dark green in colour. The grass has an extremely high salt tolerance, has excellent heat tolerance, can be mown to putting heights of 3 mm on a regular basis.

Gulfgreen ® *Cynodon transvaalensis* - variety

A SUPERLAWN selection.

This grass is very drought tolerant, requiring less moisture than most other grasses.

The grass withstands traffic better than most other grasses. Gulfgreen has, due to its vigour, the ability to remain greener for longer periods than any other *Cynodon spp.* grass, at sub zero temperatures.

**Uses:**
- **Golf tees and fairways** - speed to cover, hard wearing, regenerates quickly, drought tolerant.
- **Most other sports fields** - speed to cover, drought resistant, cold tolerant.
- **Home gardens** - speed to cover, drought resistant, cold tolerant, great appearance and lower maintenance as it will require less weeding than most other grasses, especially Kikuyu.

Sea Green ® *Cynodon dactylon* variety

A SUPERLAWN selection.

Has proven to perform well where a tough *Cynodon* variety is required. It has been used on ABSA stadium (Kings Park) DBN and other Sportsfields.

The grass has the following attributes.

**Very dark green in colour.**

The grass has a high salt tolerance.

No noticeable diseases have been recorded. Covers very quickly in the Summer months. Very hard wearing.

**Uses:** General high quality *Cynodon* lawn.