



MayFord

SHADE-OVER® GRASS



OVERVIEW

- Evergreen lawn (All year round)
- Excellent shade tolerance
- Non-creeping grass
- Non-invasive
- Quick to establish from seed
- Medium textured grass, much like Kikuyu
- Heat tolerant
- Lush appearance



ESTABLISHMENT

When:

Autumn and Spring (When the cool temperature aids germination)

Where:

Shade and semi-shade areas

Ideal for those difficult areas under trees and for townhouse gardens.



SOIL PREPARATION

- Prepare the area well by digging it over, breaking up clods and removing any stones.
- Incorporate 50 g super-phosphate per m² into the soil.
- Spread 30 g of 5:1:5 per m² over the surface.
- After raking and leveling the area the ground is ready for planting.





SOWING THE SEED

Sowing rate = 40g per m². Don't skimp on this sowing rate as this is a non-creeping grass and any skimping will result in bare patches. Broadcast the seed over the area as evenly as possible by hand, or by using a drop seeder. To achieve an even spread, split the amount of seed in two, moving up and down with one half and across and back with the other.



COVERING THE SEED

Rake the area lightly by use of a steel rake, ensuring most of the seed is covered by no more than 3 mm of soil. The seed needs light to germinate therefore it is not wise to bury it too deeply. Refrain from covering it with a layer of compost. It dries out easily and may prevent successful germination.



COMPACTING

It is essential to compact the area lightly after the seed has been covered. If you don't have a roller, place a drum on its side and roll, or simply trample lightly with your feet. This step is very important, as the seed makes direct contact with moist soil. This is crucial for successful germination.



WATERING

Gently soak the newly sown area and avoid letting any puddles form. Keep the soil moist and cool by giving it a sprinkle every day for two weeks until germination takes place. After germination has taken place, you may reduce irrigation frequency to 2-3 times a week depending on the season. This will provide deep rooted grass which will be less susceptible to harsh environmental conditions.



MOWING

The most important aspect of keeping these types of lawn healthy is mowing them at the correct height. If the lawn is in full shade it should be cut 50 to 70 mm high and in semi-shade the grass should be 40 to 50 mm high. Full sun conditions require a cutting height of about 20 to 40 mm.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I have small children and animals. Will lawn grown from seed be able to handle their ravages?

Once established, Shade-Over® is vigorous enough to handle all their comings and goings. In fact, Shade-Over® was used as the turf at a top rugby stadium for many seasons. If the grass is growing in a high traffic area, it is important to keep it well watered and cut to the correct height.

How often do I need to fertilise my lawn?

To keep your lawn healthy and green you need to feed it during its time of most active growth which is autumn and spring. Use 5:1:5 at a rate of 50 to 70 g per m² every 6 weeks during this time.

How long does it take from sowing the seed until we can walk on the lawn?

You can walk on the lawn almost immediately, but it generally takes 10 to 12 weeks before the lawn can handle constant traffic.

Are these cool season grasses invasive?

No they are bunch type grasses, which means that they do not have any aggressive runners. This virtually puts an end to edge trimming and pulling out vagrant runners from your beds.

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Are lawns grown from seed susceptible to attack by pests and disease?

Because Shade-Over® is a mixture rather than a single species of grass it's susceptibility to disease is greatly reduced compared to single species. They are no more prone to attack from pests than any other grass species.

DISCLAIMER

This information is based on our observations and/or information from other sources. As crop performance depends on the interaction between the genetic potential of the seed, its physiological characteristics, and the environment, including management, we give no warranty express or implied, for the performance of crops relative to the information given nor do we accept any liability for any loss, direct or consequential, that may arise from whatsoever cause. Please read the Sakata Seed Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd Conditions of Sale before ordering seed.

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