



Grand Prix Couch

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Grand Prix is a high density, medium leaf textured turf, which is dark green in colour. It produces low seed head numbers and features a hard wearing surface. Ongoing Industry and University monitoring being conducted in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, consistently confirms the superior performance characteristics of Grand Prix when compared with other varieties. On the basis of independently conducted wear and turf quality trials, Grand Prix is now the preferred couch grass for a high profile national rugby stadium on Queensland's Gold Coast.

What are the benefits of using Grand Prix couch?

As with most improved couch selections, drought and heat tolerance are exceptional. Once established and with the correct management, Grand Prix will survive on rainfall alone in South Eastern Australia. Resistance to wear is superior and wear recovery is rapid in warmer temperatures. Grand Prix will tolerate a wide range of mowing heights and will perform well under low fertility in passive recreational situations.

Where it is best installed?

Grand Prix is best installed in full sun; no couch grasses perform well in shady environments. Under the present threat of drought and severe water restrictions, Grand Prix is an ideal choice and is ideally suited to the rigors of sports fields and lawns exposed to high use.

Existing installations:

Skilled Stadium - Gold Coast,
Queensland Silverwater Golf Club - Yarrowonga,
Victoria Eastern Golf Club - Doncaster, Victoria
Sydney Stadium - Randwick, Sydney

For more information contact Turf Force

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Scientific name	Cynodon dactylon
Other names	Species common names Green couch (Australia), Bermudagrass (USA) Cultivar name Grand Prix
Plot number	8
Origin	'Grand Prix' resulted from a program of crossing and backcrossing other <i>C. dactylon</i> varieties to 'Wintergreen'. Breeder: David Nickson, Victoria
Global growing areas	Australia (available through licensed growers in 2007)
IP protection	PBR Certificate #3133 (granted 12 September 2006)
Details	Texture Fine Description Dark green short leaves. Leaf sheath is 8.5-9.8 mm. Leaf length 2.3 mm-3.8 mm, width 1.3-1.7 mm (fourth internode). Low number of flower spikes. Medium to thick stolons. Short internode length. (<i>Data from PBR growing trial.</i>) Uses Sportsfields, parks, general landscaping and domestic lawns Mowing height Best at 15-25 mm Method of propagation Vegetative sod, sprigging of stolons

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	<p>Preferred soil types Sandy to clay loams (pH 6-8) maintained with good nitrogen fertility (as per other <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> cultivars)</p> <p>Comments Selected in Victoria on the basis of shoot density, leaf colour and turf quality. Good coverage of bare ground due to many branching stolons and strong rhizome development. High shoot density. Sparsely seeding variety, producing only a few short seed heads relative to other green couch cultivars</p>
Tolerances	<p>Heat Good</p> <p>Cold Trial plots have maintained good turf quality during winter in southern Queensland and in Melbourne, Victoria</p> <p>Shade Unknown</p> <p>Drought Good tolerance of dry conditions</p> <p>Salinity Unknown</p> <p>Wear Excellent wear resistance</p> <p>Herbicide sensitivity DSMA and MSMA can be used to remove other grasses. A wide range of herbicides can be safely used to remove broadleaf weeds. Use only registered herbicides in accordance with the label</p>
Pests and diseases	Lawn grubs (army worm, sod webworm) during summer and autumn

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