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| TRADEMARK: | Sapphire® | BOTANICAL NAME: | <i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i> |
| PBR: | B12 This variety is protected by Australian Plant Breeder's Rights (PBR) | | |

KEY FEATURES:



- Sapphire® is Australia's 'number 1' Buffalo for shade tolerance.
- Sapphire® looks finer than other Buffalos due to its narrow-folded blade, making it a very high performing Soft Leaf Buffalo.
- Due to its high performance and fast stolon/runner growth, Sapphire® recovers quickly from wear.
- Sapphire® has a slight blue-ish tinge and runners are dark green unlike other popular Buffalos which are largely purple.
- Sapphire® has a dense root system, unlike other commercial Buffalos, improving drought tolerance.
- Sapphire® is reliable and well-regarded to grow quickly after transplanting. A new root system establishes within 14-days of planting/sprigging with good upkeep.
- Sapphire® meets the Erosion Control Australian Standard No# AS5181: 2017 – *Use and installation of turf as an erosion, nutrient and sediment control measure.*

SUGGESTED USES:

| DOMESTIC USE | DEVELOPER |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manicured appearance is excellent for high-end consumer. • Dark leaf colour attractive to lawn enthusiast. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast runner/stolon growth for a quick recovery rate from wear and damage. • Dark leaf colour and soft texture – attractive for longer in winter. |

MORPHOLOGY:

| PLANT | Growth: | Stoloniferous | Vigour: | Strong to very strong |
|------------|-------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| STOLON | Stolon length: | Medium | Stolon diameter of node: | Medium to broad |
| | Internode length: | Medium | Internode thickness: | Medium |
| | Internode colour: | Yellow/green (RHS N77A) | | |
| LEAF BLADE | Shape: | Glabrous | Length: | Short leaf blade 20.2mm |
| | Profile: | Mature leaves fold shut, making it look finer. | Colour: | Green/blue (RHS 137B) |

PERFORMANCE:

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| PURPOSE | All-purpose turf suitable for domestic and developer wanting a quick recovering, long lasting colour and Soft Buffalo underfoot. |
| ESTABLISHMENT | Establish spring to autumn. Dormant during low temperatures in winter. |
| MOWING | Requires regular mowing to maintain good colour but lower than other Buffalos due to low seed head production (about 3 per month). |
| MAXIMUM UNMOWN HEIGHT | 100-150mm |
| MAINTENANCE | Medium to high. |
| RECOMMENDED MOWING HEIGHT | Can cut lower than most other Buffalo varieties e.g. 25-50mm |
| WATER REQUIREMENTS | Required for establishment: 1-14 days (4mm twice a day), 15-28 days (7.5mm once per day), 29-35 days (7.5mm every 2nd day). Then twice weekly to maintain good colour. |

Continued...

| PERFORMANCE (continued): | |
|--------------------------|---|
| COLOUR | Excellent winter colour. Holds winter colour longer than most Buffalo varieties. |
| FERTILISER | Every 3 months or as required. |
| DROUGHT TOLERANCE | High |
| DISEASE RESISTANCE | High: Avoid watering late afternoon or in the evening to limit leaf spot diseases. |
| SEED HEAD | Low seed head production |
| COLD TOLERANCE | Tolerates to -7°C. |
| HUMIDITY TOLERANCE | High: Rust may appear in humidity if nutritionally deficient, cosmetic only, but can cause damage to leaf structure if untreated. More prone when establishing, and less likely once established. |
| SALT TOLERANCE | Medium. |
| WEED RESISTANCE | High in well established and well maintained lawns. |
| WEAR AND TEAR RECOVERY | High (<i>due to quick growing stolons</i>). |
| SUN REQUIREMENTS | Requires 2-4hrs of sun per day. |
| SHADE TOLERANCE | Full sun to 70% shade. |
| PEST RESISTANCE | High |
| THATCHING | Low |

ADVISORY:

John Keleher, Agronomist, TPI Board Member & Turf Farmer • Matt Roche, Agronomist & Consultant at Australian Sports Turf Consultants

REFERENCES:

1. Paananen, I. (2002) *Stenotaphrum secundatum* Buffalo Grass 'B12'. Plant Varieties Journal, Vol 15, No. 4.

LICENSING & COMMERCIAL ENQUIRIES:

TurfBreed Pty Ltd's contracts under license a large network of growers across the country to grow Sapphire® Buffalo fit for purpose and region.

To discuss how Sapphire® Buffalo can become part of your new project or as a long-term erosion control measure, please contact our Territory Managers.

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