

NEW
RELEASE

NaraTM
NATIVE TURF
Australia's most beautiful lawn
Zoysia macrantha 'MAC03'



The first and only all purpose **Australian Native Turf**



Fast establishing and Low Maintenance
Looking after Nara is child's play!

Finally, a native turf in roll out lawn. And it's a good one too!

On the home front.

Home owners feel good about their native gardens, now they can feel good about their more environmental native lawn that is better suited to Australian conditions.

Commercial Lawns.

In commercial circles, imagine the good will created by a golf course or a council park using a native turf instead of an exotic grass. Nara native turf will help developments get through council much easier, as now the whole landscape can be local and native.

Low Maintenance and Drought Tolerant

Nara is a low maintenance grass that is naturally very drought tolerant. These characteristics are common with native Australian turf and plants.

All purpose lawn grass

Nara is generally a coastal grass but has been proven to work well many hundreds of kilometres inland. Common Zoysia macrantha is very salt tolerant, so it is no surprise that Nara has this characteristic as well. Although this is true, Nara grows better in fresh water.

In tests, Nara had much more salt tolerance than Empire, which is known for its excellent salt tolerance in comparison to other grasses. When compared to common Zoysia macrantha, Nara had salt tolerance at the mid to lower end of the species. It cannot handle growing in sea water. However, growing close to the beach or on waterfront properties is not a problem.

Quicker to establish in warmer weather

Nara prefers to be installed when the weather is not too cold. It is best to avoid laying Nara Native turf in the following months in certain regions. Tasmania, Victoria, SA, WA avoid laying from 25th of April to 31st of August. Sydney avoid laying from the 15th of May to the 15th of August. Brisbane and north Nara can be laid at any time of the year. This is the same for all Zoysia types. In early Spring or Autumn it may take a week longer than other turf types to establish, but what's a week compared to a lifetime of low maintenance?

Seeds mainly in one part of the year

Nara seeds early Spring in a burst and then does not seed much for the rest of the year. This is a distinct advantage, as Nara will only need more mowing in early spring to remove seed head, compared to Couch and Buffalos that will need mowing to remove seed head at many times of the year.



Nara native turf (left)
grows faster than
exotic Zoysias (right)



Soft and beautiful



The native roll out lawn
with good wear tolerance

12 Benefits of Nara

- 1) Based on research and observations, Nara will need about 20% **less mowing** than Buffalo, 35% less than Couch and 55% less than Kikuyu. It is faster growing than Empire Zoysia.
- 2) It requires only **one fertilize per year** to survive. Nara is a Zoysia macrantha, which is only found in Australia. Overseas Zoysia types such as Empire (a japonica type) also only require once a year fertilizing. So less fertilizing is common to most Zoysia types around the world. If they are subject to a lot of wear twice a year fertilizing is recommended on all Zoysia. Extra fertilizer makes Nara grow faster.
- 3) Nara can be mown exactly how you would mow Couch, Kikuyu or Buffalo. **Short, medium or long.** In general, however, it is better to not mow too short as it stresses all lawns, especially in drought.
- 4) Nara is **very good at competing with weeds**. You can also use any chemical that works on Couch. Nara is much better than Buffalo with chemicals as you can, for example, take out Paspalum with a selective spray. (Check label)
- 5) **Shade.** Buffalo works in 60-70% shade. Nara works in 45-55% shade. Couch and Kikuyu only work in 15-20% shade.
- 6) Nara is **beautiful**. It is a fine textured lawn, but scalps less than Couch when mown. People choose it over Couch, Kikuyu and Buffalo on looks alone.
- 7) Edging. Nara requires **less garden edging** than Buffalo, Couch and Kikuyu, making it less invasive for the garden, although Empire Zoysia does require slightly less edging than Nara native turf.
- 8) **Winter colour.** Better than Couch and better than many Buffalo types. Nara browns off quicker than Palmetto, Sapphire and Kikuyu which are well known for their excellent winter colour. In Western Sydney at Richmond this year it was dormant for about 7 weeks. So sure there a few grasses that have better winter colour, but compared to many, Nara is better.
- 9) **Wear tolerance.** It has better wear tolerance than Buffalo in full sun. It has better wear tolerance than Couch and Kikuyu, although Couch and Kikuyu recover better from wear as they grow faster. In semi shade Nara has better wear tolerance than Couch and Kikuyu.
- 10) Less need to worry about future water restrictions. As Nara has vigorous deep rhizomes, it is far **more drought tolerant** than non rhizome grasses such as Buffalo. Buffalo will hold its colour in drought a few days longer than Nara, but will die much quicker in a hot prolonged dry spell. Nara goes dormant in severe drought to survive. Nara has developed extreme drought tolerance from its parentage. Millions of years growing in Australia's hot dry and hot humid climates has made it a real drought survivor.
- 11) It is **native to Australia**, from northern Queensland all the way down to Tasmania, to the centre of Australia and Adelaide. Zoysia macrantha is well suited to most parts including Perth, where it has performed very well, making it ideal for your local Australian lawn. We are currently releasing it in the USA as well. It performs very well there and is admired for its beauty. Nara is well adapted for all parts of Australia, except maybe the Alpine regions, although it can handle down to -12° Celsius in USA tests, which is colder than Canberra.
- 12) Disease and Pests. Nara **rarely gets disease** and copes very well with humid and dry climates. In colder areas and in wet winters, like many grasses, it can occasionally develop signs of rust, but this is generally hidden amongst the leaves of a mature lawn. Nara hides rust much better than many other types, so it is a safer choice. **Nara copes well with our bugs and insects**, probably because it built up immunity over the millions of years of development as a native species of Australia. A few introduced pest species and the odd native one may cause problems occasionally. Nara seems to be far more resistant to black beetle, army worm, and web worm than Couch, Kikuyu and Buffalo. All Zoysia types seem to be. But resistant does not mean immune, so it can sometimes get munched on. Again, because it has rhizomes, it will re-grow better than Buffalo.

Research

A Multi-Generational Selection

Nara native turf is a multi-generational selection that has taken almost a decade to breed. Selections each year were based on speed of growth and overall turf habit (density, ground coverage). The fastest growing of these became the parents for the next year's breeding trial. The final selection was made from the parent selection 'T11'. This selection was considered to have a good turf habit, a broader leaf width, fast growth rate and good salt tolerance. The seed parent is characterized by narrow leaf width, medium growth vigour and medium salt tolerance. From this came Nara, which is much faster establishing than any other Zoysia macrantha. It takes the turf farmer one third to one quarter the time to grow Nara. Common native Zoysia macrantha would be too slow.



**Common Zoysia
macrantha**



**'T11' the parent
selection for Nara**



**Nara native turf:
much faster growing**

All three turf types grown at the same time. Pictures taken 5 months after establishment in summer. Notice how much further outside of the ring Nara has grown.

*10% of Ozbreed's revenue
from Nara Native Turf will
go to the Balga Katjungka
community in WA*

For more information such as care instructions, visit

www.ozbreed.com.au