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Advantages of Sir Walter DNA Certified



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There are so many reasons why Sir Walter DNA Certified is Australia's No. 1 Buffalo. Sir Walter DNA Certified Buffalo Lawn has stood the test of time, proving time and time again that it will go anywhere and grow anywhere; in full sun or shade, in extreme heat, frost or drought.

Since 1997 there has been over 60 million metres of Sir Walter sold Australia wide that is the equivalent to 450,000 homes. It is versatile and resistant to so many factors which cause most other lawns a problem, and which are really no match for Sir Walter.

There is a long list of attributes, to name a few:

- ✓ Great in full sun & shade
- ✓ Drought tolerant
- ✓ Low Maintenance
- ✓ Weed resistant
- ✓ Salt tolerant
- ✓ Low allergy
- ✓ Disease & fungus resistant
- ✓ Environmentally Friendly
- ✓ Very Soft
- ✓ Resistant to lawn grub attack
- ✓ Comes with a 10 Year Product Warranty
- ✓ All Lawn Solutions Australia growers are certified by AusGAP – Australia's only turfgrass certification system.

Regarded by most leading turf and garden experts as being the best all round home lawn for most Australian conditions.



The benefits of lawn



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The benefits of lawn

There are many benefits to natural turfgrass. Lawns, due to their natural cooling effect, play a big role in reducing the temperature around our homes and cities. Lawns act as a natural filter utilising nutrients that would otherwise run off into waterways, dams, rivers, seas and oceans.

Lawns help keep our air clean by filtering dust and other airborne pollutants that may harm our respiratory systems and skin and they also reduce CO2 by sequestering carbon into the soil just like any other plant.

Sir Walter DNA Certified Buffalo Lawn®

There is a reason Sir Walter DNA Certified is Australia's No. 1 buffalo lawn. Having stood the test of time, proving that it will go anywhere and grow anywhere, in full sun or shade, in extreme heat, frost or drought. Sir Walter DNA Certified is lush and green, with a tight growth habit to hold out weeds and the ability to self repair, all the while staying soft.

There are a lot of buffalo grasses on the market, but none of these have been able to surpass Sir Walter DNA Certified in ticking all the right boxes.



Environmental lawn facts



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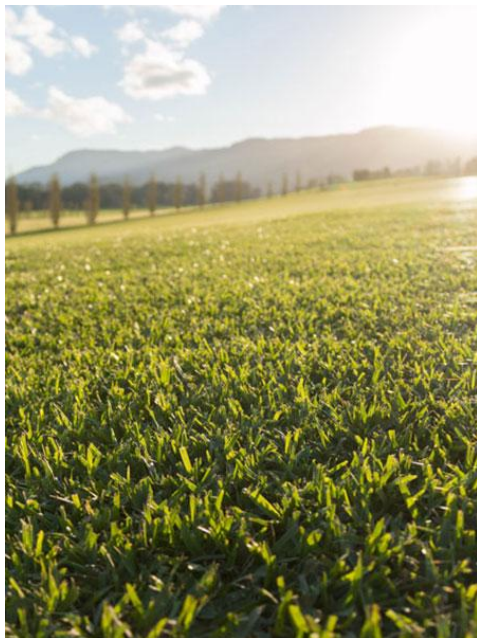
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Environmental Lawn Facts

1. Nitrogen is the ingredient that makes the lawn grow
2. Lawns help to purify and cool the air. An average front lawn offers the same cooling as 2.5 air conditioners.
3. Lawns are an important source of plant oxygen exchange.
4. Lawn areas quickly affect people's moods by creating feelings of serenity, privacy, thoughtfulness or happiness.
5. Recovery rates among hospitalised patients are often quicker when their rooms view a landscaped area compared to patients with non-landscaped views.
6. A well-maintained lawn and landscape keeps your home cooler on hot days, reducing surface temperatures by 30 to 40 degrees compared with bare soil, and 10 to 21 degrees cooler than streets and driveways.
7. Lawns are a natural filter to protect water quality and the environment.
8. Lawns provide a noise barrier and glare reduction.
9. Lawns provide a safe, high quality, play area for children and pets.
10. A well-maintained lawn increases the value of your property.
11. In Australia alone, it is estimated that there is more than 10 million hectares of natural lawn.
12. 15x15m turf area will sustain oxygen requirements for a family of 4.



Children friendly lawn



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Lawn Solutions Australia is all about creating greener environments. Houses should not stop at the back door. The Aussie back yard is a place for kids to play, pets to run about and the adults to socialise. Few things make a back yard more inviting than a great lawn. It's not just about aesthetics, it's about how you live and thrive in each environment and Sir Walter DNA Certified Buffalo lawn gives home owners a great start by being the most low-allergy grass available on the market.

As well as an excellent area for exercise, the right lawn variety can provide health benefits such as filtering out airborne pollutants and providing clean, oxygen-rich air. Choosing a non-allergenic lawn variety such as a Sir Walter DNA Certified is vital.

Some people are allergic to certain lawn types; grass allergies can trigger itchiness, hay fever and asthma. Bear in mind

too that you need to look after visitors to your home and also potential future buyers. To encourage healthy living, parents are happy to install play equipment, but these need to be managed:

- ☐ Trampolines are popular and great for kids exercise and coordination. The lawn can suffer underneath them if they are not moved regularly though, so try not to shade any one area for too long.
- ☐ A wellused swing set can cause compaction; the lawn beneath them will require a bit of extra care and attention so keep on top of that.
- ☐ Cubby houses, especially elevated ones may cause issues for your lawn with shade and traffic. As they are usually permanent fixtures, allowances should be made so they don't impede the growth of the rest of your lawn.



AusGAP and Warranty

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AusGAP and Warranty

To give our customers peace of mind, Lawn Solutions Australia have taken a 2 pronged approach to ensure that our members only grow and harvest the best quality turf.

Lawn Solutions Australia has launched an industry-first accreditation process, setting a new standard for best practice in the Australian turf industry. This, coupled with our members AusGAP Certification guarantees you are getting the best quality turf available in Australia, no matter which variety you choose. All Lawn Solutions Australia members are reviewed continuously.



The Lawn Solutions Australia warranty certifies that turf supplied by a Lawn Solutions Australia member has been grown and harvested to stringent standards, is free of weeds and disease on delivery, and will perform to its maximum potential in its new environment. By purchasing your turf from an accredited Lawn Solutions Australia turf producer or supplier, you can pass on this 10 year product warranty to your customer. It gives extra peace of mind that the product you are providing is the best available on the market.

The AusGAP certification system not only ensures the genetic purity of a turf-grass variety where appropriate; it provides assurance that the entire production, delivery and installation process is

undertaken to the highest industry standards. All Lawn Solution Australia members are required to be AusGAP Certified. They are inspected regularly to ensure top quality turf, as well as keeping the highest standards in WPHS and after sales service.

For more information visit
www.ausgap.com.au



AusGAP
CERTIFIED



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How do you know it's Genuine Sir Walter?

In late 2015, Lawn Solutions Australia (LSA) commenced an extensive DNA testing process with our members to further ensure Sir Walter that is produced and sold by LSA members is the genuine, high quality turf product which Australians know and trust.

To ensure you are purchasing DNA Certified Sir Walter, always be sure you are purchasing from a Lawn Solutions Australia member or accredited Lawn Solutions Centre.

Always look for the Sir Walter DNA Certified logo and be sure to check you have received a copy of Lawn Solutions Australia's 10-year product warranty certificate with your order.

You can confirm if you have purchased genuine DNA Certified Sir Walter, by contacting LSA on 1300 883 711 or go online to www.lawnsolutionsaustralia.com.au to clarify if the company you purchased from is an accredited LSA member.

You'll be backed by our 10 Year Product Warranty

With every DNA Certified Sir Walter purchase, no matter how big or small, you will be issued with a Lawn Solutions Australia Product Warranty Certificate. This certificate is to ensure that you are receiving Genuine Sir Walter.

As a member of the Lawn Solutions Australia house of brands, your purchase of DNA Certified Sir Walter will also be covered by our nationwide warranty.



Preparing to install Sir Walter

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Preparation for a new lawn



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Before you start...

When installing a new Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn, proper soil preparation is essential to ensure the new lawn has a long and healthy life. As you may know, a lawn will only be as good as the base underneath it. The Sir Walter DNA Certified turf itself is simply the pretty top layer, which has had hours of hard work already put into it, before it was cut fresh and delivered to site. The quality of the sub-soil is absolutely paramount if you want to ensure the turf you are installing will live out its life to its maximum potential.

Unfortunately, soil preparation is often overlooked or shortcuts are taken

in order to get the turf down quicker to improve the aesthetics of the yard for the customer. Preparation is not just about filling the area with topsoil, it can often involve improving the current soil that is in place. Soil can sometimes be mistaken for a complicated beast, so below we will offer some hints and tips for preparing a turf base so you can get a better understanding of how it all works and why its important to carry out improvements and proper preparation, as opposed to just bunging down a few rolls of turf and then wondering why its not performing its best.



Identifying soil type

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Identifying soil type

Identifying the existing soil type is key in preparation, as it will give you a fair idea of whether you can easily improve the current soil, or if excavation and installation of new soil is the best way to go. The main aspects of what you want in a good soil is a base that is de-compacted so water can drain through and the turf can establish its root system easy, as well as soil with lots of nutrients for the turf to feed off to ensure its remains healthy.

You can identify if a soil is too compacted relatively easily. If you can't stick a screwdriver or garden fork easily into the soil then you have a problem with compaction.

There are a number of ways to alleviate compaction if excavating the soil isn't an option. Aeration is a common method of de-compacting heavy clay soils. Aeration is simply putting holes into the ground with an aerator or garden fork, allowing air and moisture into the soil to help with drainage and turf root development. Using a product like gypsum is also an effective method of alleviating compacted soils. Gypsum is a readily available product that can be spread across the turf base at a rate of 1-2kg per square metre that will break down clay and de-compact the soil.



Assessing soil health

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Assessing soil health

Other than compaction, the health and nutrient qualities of soil are another major factor on how well the base is conditioned for Sir Walter DNA Certified. A simple PH test is a great way to find out what your base needs to be brought up to a healthy standard for turf. PH testing kits are readily available, and are a quick, easy and cheap way of identifying a soil. Ideal pH for Sir Walter DNA Certified is between 6 and 7. If the soil has a pH of below 6, it is considered to be acidic. To raise the pH in acidic soils, you can apply product such as lime and dolomite at recommended application rates. If the soil is above 7, the soil is considered alkaline and can be treated with sulfur

based products to successfully lower the pH down to the ideal level.

If you believe that the soil you are looking to install Sir Walter DNA Certified on is beyond correction, or you simply need to rearrange or raise the levels of the ground, excavation of old soil and installing new soil is the best way to achieve a suitable turf base. For smaller areas, excavation can be done by hand with shovels, barrows and plenty of sweat! For larger areas, you can't beat a machine with a good operator. Just be sure to always excavate and allow at least 100mm for new topsoil plus an extra 30-40mm to allow for the height of the Sir Walter DNA Certified, whilst always keeping an eye out for any pipes or services.



Selecting a soil base

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Selecting and ordering a soil base

After you have excavated the area, its time to select and install your soil base which will give the turf its best chance of thriving. Always be sure to consult your local soil yard incase any regional problems exist, but for the most part and in most areas a sandy loam is ideal for turf purposes. Your average sandy loam base is composed of 70% sand and 30% soil, but this can vary slightly. The benefits of a sandy loam include the fact it is very light, which means it easy to move around and easy to spread and level. The sand component of the base ensures drainage in the soil is good, and it has a less chance of compacting in the long run.

The soil component provides the base with the nutrients the turf needs to thrive in its new environment.

After you have selected your soil, you have to measure the area to ensure you don't majorly over or under order. To measure the area, simply find the area of the yard in square meters and multiply it by the amount of soil required. For example if the yard is 100 square metres and you require 100mm of depth, you will require 10m³ of soil. It is always best to over compensate then to under, as you can always use soil in other areas of the yard. Once ordered, always remember to take into account that a truck will be delivering the soil so you have to allow enough room for the delivery.



Spreading and leveling soil



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Spreading and leveling

Once the soil has arrived, begin to move it around the designated area and roughly spread it out (whether that is with the bobcat bucket or wheelbarrows and shovels). After you have spread it out roughly, it is time to finish the level to where you are happy. To do this, it is best to get rakes and do it by hand. If you have an experienced bobcat operator handy, it is best to get him to have a crack at it. Regardless, it will always need a final rake to finish. Always be sure to think about drainage issues when leveling soil and where the water will run too when it rains. Also, be sure to leave approx. 30-40mm for the Sir Walter turf if matching the height up to an existing surface.

A light compaction will be required before installing turf to ensure the turf doesn't sink or become uneven once installed. If you have a bobcat or machine leveling the area, its weight will usually take care of this. If leveling by hand, the use of a light roller can do the trick.

Key points to remember;

- ☐ Ensure the soil is de-compacted, and has a pH suitable for Sir Walter
- ☐ If necessary, it is always advisable to correct poor pH or excavate existing base and install new suitable soil
- ☐ Always take into account drainage when leveling soil, as you don't want water pooling on your lawn
- ☐ Be sure to allow for height of turf when finishing your leveling if matching up with an existing surface



Preparing to install Sir Walter



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Measuring and estimating

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Measuring and estimating quantities

After your soil base is prepared, your next step is to order and install your Sir Walter DNA Certified turf. The installation process is generally a less labour intensive task than preparing a base so you can be happy the hard-yakka is for the most part out of the way. Now you can enjoy a full transformation from a brown and barren looking dirt area, to a lush green lawn – which is sure to impress your customer.

First things first, you must measure the area that requires turf and then place an order with your local Lawn Solutions Australia member.

Measuring is reasonably simple, just work out which areas of the yard require turf and then calculate area in square meters. It is always best when ordering to allow an extra 5% to cater for odd-shaped areas and shaping around corners and trees as you will be cutting and shaping your turf to fit. The sections you cut off will never grow as well as full slabs or rolls so it is always good to have a few extra pieces. Even if you have a few left over at the end there is always an area somewhere (or a mate somewhere) that can use a bit of Sir Walter DNA Certified!



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Delivery

Once you have worked out your quantity it is time to place an order through Lawn Solutions Australia turf supplier. It is also best to use a starter fertiliser prior to installing your turf to help it establish faster and save water. Consult your supplier as to what starter fertilizer will best suit your needs. As Sir Walter DNA Certified is a living product, it has to be harvested and delivered, so be sure to allow enough time for this to happen when planning out your job. Depending on your location, you generally should allow at least 24 hours from the time you are ordering, until the time you wish to receive the turf. Once cut from the farm, the turf is under stress and will easily dry-out, therefore it is always recommended

to install the turf the same day you get it delivered. Also, always be sure you are doing business with an accredited Lawn Solutions Australia member so you can be sure you are getting what you paid for, and the product will be top quality.

So your Sir Walter has been ordered, now it is time to get into the installation. Your turf (if getting delivered, and not picked up by you or your staff) will arrive on the back of a truck and will be unloaded with a forklift, so be sure to allow room for the forklift to get closer to your site, to save barrowing or carrying turf to far. It is always best to give your Lawn Solutions Australia turf supplier as much delivery instructions as possible to make sure this process is quick and easy. Once the turf is delivered it is now time to start installing!



Laying the turf

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Laying the turf

When beginning, always be sure to start from the furthest point from the entrance to the site so you are not walking over the top of freshly laid Sir Walter DNA Certified.

If the area is sloped, always be sure to install across the slope to prevent the turf from eroding or sliding initially after installation.

Prior to laying any turf, first spread out your starter fertiliser as per the applications rates and instructions on the packaging, it is best lightly rake in the starter fertiliser into the very top layer of the soil.

Full slabs/rolls of turf should always be used around the perimeter of the area or next to hard surfaces as they will heat up the most, and are most prone to drying out in the early stages.

Once you have laid a perimeter it is best to stagger the joints of the slabs/rolls like brickwork. This helps to prevent drying out and soil erosion.

Always take your time, being sure to butt the edges of turf closely together and avoid leaving any gaps as these can dry out, look a tad ordinary and can cause an uneven surface on the finish product. A good turf installation job cannot be rushed!



Making it neat

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Making it neat

With odd shaped areas, and when staggering your joints or shaping around trees and paths you will have to cut the turf. This is best done with a sharp pair of shears or garden scissors – even a shovel or spade can do the trick.

When cutting pieces, avoid re-installing the smaller cut-offs unless necessary as these can dry out quickly. This is where the extra 5% when measuring comes in very handy!

Once the turf has been installed, be sure there are no gaps or no sections missing. Dispose of left-over turf correctly, by either using it on a separate job or disposing in the appropriate bins.



Finishing and watering-in

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Finishing and watering in

As soon as you are finished, it is crucial to get the turf watered straight away. This is best completed by setting up a sprinkler, or hand watering the area – however it is you choose to water just **be sure it happens straight away and each section has at least half an hour worth of water initially.**

It is sometimes said to roll the turf after completion, this can help with leveling out the area slightly and with assisting root contact to the soil. If you have access to the roller this is a good idea, however isn't a necessity.

Once completed, be sure the property owner (or persons looking after the lawn) is well aware of the requirements of maintaining a new lawn and have the appropriate information available to them.

For more information on proper lawn care and maintenance, be sure to contact your local Lawn Solutions Australia member.



Establishment and maintenance

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Establishment and watering



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Once the new Sir Walter DNA Certified turf is installed, it is time to put certain steps in place to ensure it survives in its new environment, and looks good year-round for your customer. Establishment and maintenance practices are very much dependent on the weather, and the time of the year.

Watering

Initially, water is the main ingredient you will need to help the turf establish. You should be watering a lawn immediately after you have finished laying it, and continue to do so everyday for at least the next 3 weeks. Morning and afternoon is generally the best time to water, as it won't evaporate quickly in the heat of the middle of the day. Approx 30 minutes

per day, whether that is 2 x 15 minute or 1 x 30 min period will suffice for a new lawn.

If the lawn has been installed in an excessively hot period you may need to double that amount. After the initial 3-week period, you can back off the amount you are watering to 2-3 times per week. Always remember however, with a young lawn you need to keep an eye on the weather. If excessive hot days continue, you need to keep up the water. However if we receive regular rainfall, naturally you can back the watering off. You just cannot let a new lawn dry out.



Mowing



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Mowing

In regards to mowing a new lawn, you should not be thinking about mowing until at least 2-3 weeks after installation depending on the time of the year. Before you mow a lawn for the first time, you must ensure that all the turf has established, and cannot be easily lifted up from the soil. If this isn't the case, you may need to wait a little longer before mowing. If your turf is ready, be sure to always mow Sir Walter DNA Certified on a high setting, especially whilst the lawn is still young. A soft leaf buffalo turf like Sir Walter DNA Certified does not want to be scalped, or mown low as other varieties may require.

Approx. 30-40mm is a good height to mow Sir Walter. Keeping lawn cut at a slightly higher setting will protect it from the weather, as well as ensuring it looks its best at any time of the year.

You can mow Sir Walter DNA Certified with any regular mower, both cylinder and mulching. It is always best to catch clippings but is definitely not essential. Always be sure mower blades are kept sharp, and are maintained regularly. Consistent mowing is also necessary to ensure thatch does not build up in the lawn, so keep mowing often during the growing months of the year.



Foot traffic

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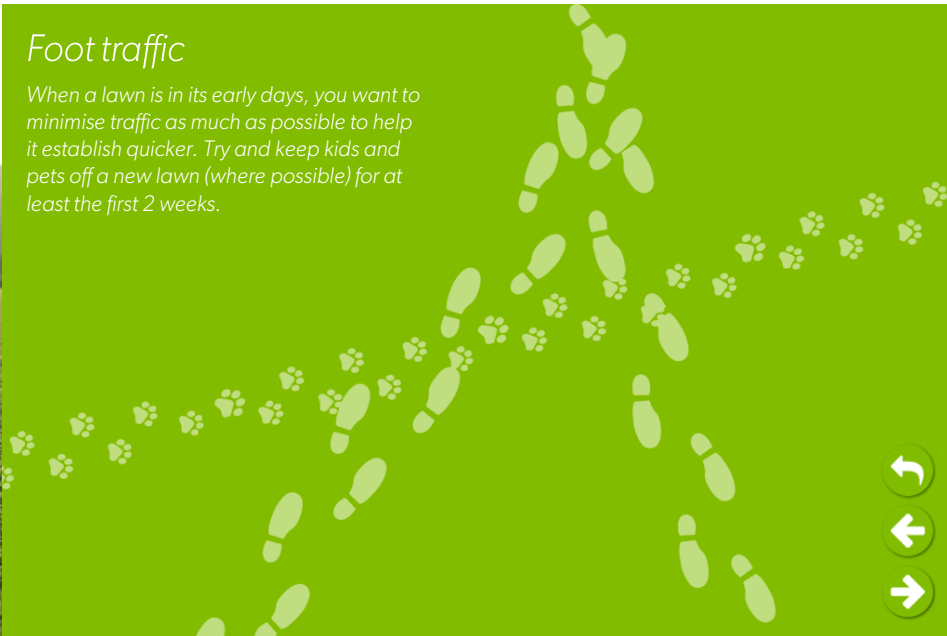
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Foot traffic

When a lawn is in its early days, you want to minimise traffic as much as possible to help it establish quicker. Try and keep kids and pets off a new lawn (where possible) for at least the first 2 weeks.



Fertilising



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Fertilising

A regular fertilising schedule will help keep a Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn in peak condition throughout the year, and enable it to be better equipped to deal with stress, fighting off disease and the emergence of weeds. There are a number of different types of fertilisers you can use. For a Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn it is best to use a high nitrogen granular fertiliser as it is easy to spread, is non-toxic and will give your lawn the nutrients it requires to stay healthy. With a new lawn it is best to wait at least 6 weeks after installation prior to commencing a scheduled fertilising program. Always be sure to follow the instructions on the fertiliser label and water in well after application.

A Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn should receive at least 3 applications of fertiliser per year. You can fertilise at a minimum of 6-week intervals, but generally you can achieve a healthy lawn fertilising at 3 crucial times during the year.

Fertilising at the start of spring, prior to Christmas and again at Easter will be adequate for Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn to thrive. Avoid fertilising during the cooler months if you are located in parts of Australia where Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn goes dormant, as it will not have any effect on the growth of your lawn, and can encourage winter-active weeds to emerge as a Sir Walter DNA Certified lawn is more prone to weed infestation in the cooler months.



Other maintenance practices

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Other common maintenance practices

Sir Walter DNA Certified can require different types of maintenance throughout the seasons depending on the situation. Practices such as dethatching, aerating and top-dressing are all common and can greatly assist a lawn in dealing with common issues. The above mentioned maintenance practices are best performed in the warmer months when the lawn is still growing, and are only to be done if necessary.

Before attempting any of the above, it is best to contact your local Lawn Solutions Australia member to ensure you have the correct tools and knowledge to ensure the job is completed correctly.



Support



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Get support from Lawn Solutions Australia

*Your Lawn Solutions experts are available
to help you with your job at any stage.*

*You can contact your local supplier
directly or jump online at the Lawn
Solutions Australia website to find
suppliers, advice and a whole lot more.*

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