



Turf Fact Sheet

Santa Anna Couch

Santa Anna Couch is summer active grass and is commonly used on domestic lawns in South Australia.

Appearance

It has a fine leaf and is bright green in colour giving it the overall appearance of fine carpet. Santa Anna has a very tight-knit growth habit that tends to thatch up and become spongy very quickly requiring regular coring / scarifying. Like all couch grasses, **Santa Anna is dormant in winter from around May to September/October which means it does not actively grow.** During this period it can be susceptible to weed infestation through the air and also from the soil underneath. Weeds generally tend to be choked out when the couch starts actively growing again. Santa Anna prefers a position in full sun.

Maintenance

- Santa Anna prefers a position in **full sun** and is ideally suited to playing surfaces and front yards to show off its carpet like quality.
- Santa Anna will perform better if transplanted in the warmer months (September to May).
- Santa Anna Couch requires a straightforward maintenance program of watering, mowing and fertilizing.
- All lawns must be kept damp for up to 21 days after laying - this means watering both at morning and night as per water restrictions allow.
- The need for summer watering can be guided by the colour of the grass, if it turns a blue/grey shade, this indicates that it is stressed and in need of watering as soon as possible. However, usually once weekly should be sufficient, depending on climate. This can be reduced as needed in cooler months.
- All purpose lawn food should be applied 4 weeks after laying and then another 3 times during the year.
- Coring/scarifying is required approximately every two years depending on your mowing habits.
- Regular weed control is required, particularly in winter months.
- Recommended mowing height for couch grasses is approximately 13-15mm.

DROUGHT TOLERANCE 7 / 10

WEAR & DURABILITY 7.5 / 10

SHADE TOLERANCE 3 / 10

LOW MAINTENANCE 7.5 / 10