

TRADEMARK:	Palmetto®	BOTANICAL NAME:	<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>
PBR:	SS100 This variety is protected by Australian Plant Breeder's Rights (PBR)		

KEY FEATURES:



- Palmetto® is the biggest selling Buffalo in the world.
- Palmetto® out performed 'Sir Walter' in trials for maintaining colour, hardiness and growth speeds^{1,2}.
- As Palmetto® grows slower than other Buffalo varieties, therefore less mowing, less maintenance.
- Palmetto® fared the best for drought tolerance against all other Buffalo varieties trialled³.
- Palmetto® winter colour fared ≈ 40% better than Sir Walter and 140% better than Shademaster⁴.
- Palmetto® 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 – attractive for longer in winter.

MORPHOLOGY:

PLANT	Growth:	Stoloniferous	Vigour:	Medium to strong
STOLON	Stolon length:	Medium	Stolon diameter of node:	Medium to broad
	Internode length:	Medium	Internode thickness:	Medium
	Internode colour:	Yellow/green (RHS 197A)		
LEAF BLADE	Texture of surface:	Glabrous	Length:	Short
	Inflorescence anthers:	Terminal or axillary	Attitude:	Horizontal
	Colour:	Dark green (RHS 138B)		

Note: Data is relative to other commercial Buffalo grass varieties trialled. ⁵

PERFORMANCE:

ESTABLISHMENT	Establish August to May. Dormant in 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 times per month).
MAXIMUM UNMOWN HEIGHT	100-150mm
MAINTENANCE	Medium to high.
RECOMMENDED MOWING HEIGHT	20-50mm full sun. 50-70mm in shade.
WATER REQUIREMENTS	Required for establishment: 1-14 days (4mm twice a day), 15-28 days (7.5mm once a day), 29-35 days (7.5mm every 2nd day). Then twice weekly to maintain good colour.
COLOUR	Excellent winter colour. Holds winter colour longer than other Buffalo varieties.

Continued...

PERFORMANCE (continued):	
FERTILISER	Every 3 months or as required.
DROUGHT TOLERANCE	High
SALT RESISTANCE	High (<i>higher tolerance than Buffalo and Couch</i>).
DROUGHT TOLERANCE	High
DISEASE RESISTANCE	High: Avoid watering late afternoon or in the evening to limit leaf spot diseases.
SEED HEAD	Has low seed head production in ideal growing conditions.
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: Due to its dense growth makes it harder for weeds to invade.
WEAR AND TEAR RECOVERY	Fast due to quick growing stolons producing lateral growth.
SHADE TOLERANCE	Requires 2-4 hrs of sun per day. Grows in full-sun to 60% shade. Handles 45%-50% shade under moderate wear.
PEST RESISTANCE	High
THATCHING	Low

AVAILABILITY:
QLD, NSW, ACT & VIC

ADVISORY:

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

REFERENCES:

- Layt, T. & Paananen, I. (2007) Quantifying the strengthening of soil by commonly used landscape plants and turf
- Colmer, T. (2012) The University of Western Australia "Evaluation of soft leaf buffalo cultivars: renovation, mowing heights, and water use" HAL Project TU09005.
- Duff, A., Loch, D. & Colmer, T. (2009) Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation "Adaptation and management of Australian buffalo grass cultivars for shade and water conservation" HAL Project TU04013.
- Chalmers, D. R., Steinke, K., White, R. & Fipps, G. (2006) Evaluation of Sixty-Day Drought Survival in San Antonio of Established Turfgrass Species and Cultivars, SAWS study Year 1 Progress Report, Texas.
- Scattini, W. (1999) *Stenotaphrum secundatum* Buffalo Grass 'SS100'. Plant Varieties Journal Vol. 12, No. 2.

LICENSING & COMMERCIAL ENQUIRIES:

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

To discuss how Palmetto® 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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