



WARNING!

Summer turf guide

Is there anything I can do to help keep it fresh?

Better opportunities for transplanting will be achieved when turf is installed the day it is delivered. Turf harvested into a roll is still a living product and deserves to be managed in a way that allows it to perform to its best abilities when unrolled. We have warning signs attached to the pallets and on the despatch paperwork which clearly informs the user that turf should be installed on the same day. Any turf not laid then should be rolled out overnight before installing the next day.

- **Have turf delivered the day you are going to install it**
- **Consider starting your day later and working later to ensure all the turf delivered, is laid on the same day.**
- **When the turf is delivered, if possible, arrange for it to be placed in the shade out of direct sunlight.**
- **Split the stack to allow the turf at the centre of the stack (where it gets hottest) to cool down.**
- **DO NOT** water the turf when it is still rolled up the moisture will cause the turf to deteriorate faster.

Should I lay the turf if it is starting to go yellow?

The turf is fine to lay if it is just yellowing and it will recover within a few days once it is laid and watered. However, if it is starting to go mouldy or if the grass has turned a blackish colour with a slimy film it has been left rolled up too long and it is very unlikely to recover.

Should I be laying turf during hot weather?

It is not a problem laying turf in hot weather although it is important that you exercise the precautions mentioned in this leaflet and in addition:

- Set the sprinkler to water the turf as it is being laid
- It is advisable to order at least 5% over and above what you need in case some of the rolls have over heated in transit.

If some of the rolls don't recover is there anything I can do?

You have two options, to replace the rolls of turf that have died with fresh rolls or over sow the dead patches with seed to match the turf you have laid. If you do nothing the dead areas will provide a seed bed for undesirable grasses and weeds.

It is advisable not to lay damaged turf in the first place and more information on heat stress caused in transit and what to look out for at the time of delivery can be found on the reverse of this leaflet. Our turf is harvested on demand and will arrive as fresh as possible. It is only in extreme hot weather that you will need to carefully check your delivery.

“ Yes, you can install turf successfully in hot conditions, if you plan it properly. ”

The day was June 22nd 2017, the hottest day in June since 1976 where Heathrow reported temperatures of 34.5°C*.

The turf was harvested late afternoon the previous day, loaded on a lorry and transported in the early hours of the morning to arrive at the customers at 8am.

Three men were standing by to install onto a ready prepared area. The turf was installed immediately and watered. The result is pictured above.

* The Met office



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GROWING BETTER TOGETHER

Turf heat stress avoid disappointment

How long is too long for turf to be left rolled up?

It depends on the time of year. During the winter the turf will stay fresh for a number of days. However, during the summer the turf must be laid as soon as it arrives. When turf is harvested and rolled it begins to heat up. This heating is caused by micro-organisms present in soil that consume the oxygen encouraging other organisms to become active. As they grow they generate heat just like in a compost heap. You may have noticed that grass leaves or hay, when piled up, becomes hot and sometimes appears to smoke. The same type of heat generation goes on in rolled up turf as it acts like a blanket and traps this heat. The rolled up turf cannot cool itself, because there is no oxygen and the heat cannot escape very fast. Therefore, the turf becomes hot. At first the heat will cause the grass to turn yellow. This may happen within 24-48 hours after the turf is harvested. If the turf remains rolled up the heat will continue to build up and the turf will go black, mold will appear and eventually the turf will die.

HOT SUMMER WEATHER WARNING!

Our turf is cut fresh to order and delivered next day but in extreme high temperatures heat stress accelerates and in rare circumstances our turf over-heats in the roll during transportation. In hot weather it is advisable to check your delivery for black or white mouldy patches from which it is unlikely to recover. In this instance **DO NOT lay the damaged turf. If you then photograph it with proof of date and providing every effort has been made after delivery to correctly care for the product we will consider replacing the heated turf as soon as you require.**



Freshly delivered turf left too long in the stack is susceptible to heat stress and can deteriorate quickly



Watch out for mouldy, black turf