



Duraturf® Bolta

For winter oversowing of kikuyu or couch racetracks

Key Points

- **A blend of two elite, tetraploid annual ryegrasses**
- **Rapid establishment when oversown**
- **Very high winter growth rate**
- **Late heading date, allowing excellent growth and density through spring**

Description

Duraturf® Bolta blend is designed for oversowing kikuyu or couch racetracks to provide winter colour and growth and to protect the dormant C₄ grass underneath. It combines two elite tetraploid annual ryegrasses with Mediterranean genetics to provide rapid establishment from oversowing in autumn and into winter and vigorous productivity through the cooler months. Their productivity and density through springtime into early summer is also excellent, due to their late heading date.

Maintenance

Refer to our Racetrack Oversowing Guide on page two of this technical sheet for more details. Mowing height should be higher than 80 mm. Duraturf® Bolta responds rapidly to nitrogen applications through the winter if extra growth and recovery is required. We recommend Duraturf® Bolta be removed by herbicide in springtime or early summer, to fit in with the racing programme.

Sowing rate

150-200 kg/ha for the main oversowing, 100-150 kg/ha for top-up oversowings.



Contact us

1800 DURATURF
info@pggwrightsonurf.com.au
pggwrightsonurf.com.au

 facebook.com/pggwrightsonurf

Racetrack Oversowing Guide

Oversowing kikuyu racetracks for the winter provides many benefits.

- Green colour and vivid mowing patterns enhance visual quality
- The extra grass biomass greatly increases shoot and root density
- Winter growth provides improved wear tolerance and faster recovery from traffic
- The oversown ryegrass protects the underlying kikuyu sward from damage
- Ryegrass activity through winter removes water from the soil (the ET (Evapotranspiration) effect)

The modern approach to winter oversowing of couch sportsgrounds has been a game-changer in football; the same principles are now being used on racetracks using PGG Wrightson Turf's Duraturf® Bolta. It is a blend of elite, tetraploid annual ryegrasses with very high winter productivity and late heading, which ensures excellent growth and quality right through winter and spring, into early summer. The key to the modern approach is removing Duraturf® Bolta with the herbicide iodosulfuron, at the precise time you specify. Our 8 point plan is explained below:

1. Consider the schedule for the racetrack for the upcoming season, and lock in an autumn oversowing date which will be followed by at least two weeks without traffic. Also lock in a date in spring or early summer for herbicide removal of the ryegrass. These dates need to ensure that the ryegrass isn't in for longer than seven months, so that the kikuyu or couch is on its own over summer for at least five months.
2. One week before oversowing, apply Trinexepac at one of the higher label rates (e.g. 0.25 l/ha active ingredient). This will retard kikuyu activity and promote a better ryegrass strike.
3. Sow Duraturf® Bolta at 200 kg/ha. Don't go lower than 150 kg/ha, even if you plan to use top-up sowings later in the season. Keep some seed for top-up sowings through the winter on high-wear areas. A variety of sowing methods will work; Duraturf® Bolta germinates rapidly and aggressively in a kikuyu sward.
4. Immediately after seeding, take the track completely out of action for at least two weeks. You won't need to mow or fertilise for those two weeks, just stay off it.
5. You'll probably need to irrigate, however. Apply irrigation as required to maintain a moist seedbed. One of the main causes of poor ryegrass establishment is insufficient irrigation if the autumn turns out warm and dry.
6. Once the track is back in action, apply fertilisers through the winter period, appropriate to the activity of the ryegrass. Duraturf® Bolta has high winter activity and will appreciate diligent fertilising at an N rate of around 0.25 kg N/100 m²/month through winter. It will handle much higher N rates if more growth is required.
7. In spring or into early summer, transition the ryegrass out using iodosulfuron (Destiny®). It will remove *Poa Annua*, clover and several other weeds species as well as the ryegrass.
8. Don't dethatch heavily at this time of year (spring and early summer). Kikuyu will be undergoing a major root replacement in preparation for summer, and any shocks such as suddenly lowering the mowing height, dethatching or drought stress can retard the development of those new roots. Coring or spiking is okay as the irrigation season starts, but leave dethatching until later, into the new year if possible.

Note: Duraturf® Bolta should be mown higher than 80 mm, so on couch racetracks that might be mown lower we recommend the same program, but using a turf-type ryegrass such as Colosseum or Arena.

For further information, contact the PGG Wrightson Turf Territory Manager for your area.