

# OVERSEEDING

Increasing overseeding rates during the renovation of worn perennial ryegrass turf dramatically increases the speed of establishment and turf quality of the sward.

## Are you applying sufficient seed to create the desired result?

DLF recently commissioned the STRI to carry out an independent trial studying the effects of different seeding rates.

The trial was set up to examine the speed of recovery, over an 8 week period, of a heavily worn perennial ryegrass sward overseeded with a perennial ryegrass mixture sown at different seed rates.

An area of perennial ryegrass turf was intensively worn using a differential slip wear machine fitted with football stud rotors. The trial area was prepared using an Auto Seeder. Four passes were made over the area in four different directions to produce a fine tilth.

## Conclusion

During the establishment phase there was a direct relationship between seed rate and turf quality. The higher seed rates markedly reduced the time required to achieve a surface that would be deemed fit for use.

The density and uniformity of sward produced at the end of the establishment phase was also improved by increasing the normal seed rates.



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## STRI trial on the effects of different seeding rates

### WEEK 3

ABOVE  
75g/m<sup>2</sup>



STANDARD  
25g/m<sup>2</sup>



CONTROL  
Control



- Very marked difference between seeding rates
- Greater grass cover and increased turf quality for highest seed rate
- All significantly better than standard (25g/m<sup>2</sup>) and half standard (12.5g/m<sup>2</sup>)

### WEEK 5

ABOVE  
75g/m<sup>2</sup>



STANDARD  
25g/m<sup>2</sup>



CONTROL  
Control



- Grass cover and visual turf quality very similar for highest seeding rates
- Higher seed rates significantly more grass cover and better visual turf quality than standard and half standard
- Significant benefit of overseeding on grass cover and visual turf quality

### WEEK 8

ABOVE  
75g/m<sup>2</sup>



STANDARD  
25g/m<sup>2</sup>



CONTROL  
Control



- Differences between the extremes of seeding rate still apparent