

HYDROSPRIGGING

Hydrosprigging is one of the most economical and successful approaches to the establishment of grass on golf courses, bowling greens and playing fields.

Hydrosprigging is the application of fertiliser, organic mulch, sprigs or stolons (chopped grass such as couch, kikuyu, buffalo) and a tackifier/binder in a water based slurry at rates typically above 10-40 m³/ha. This is commonly used for recreational turf areas such as golf greens, fairways and sporting ovals.

The slurry is sprayed onto the site from the truck via a directional monitor and can be pumped through extension hoses for up to 200m if required. It bonds to the soil surface providing an ideal medium for germination and even distribution of sprigs and fertiliser.

Hydrosprigging equipment

Aquaseeding has trucks with a tank capacity of either 8000l or 2000l. The larger tank increases the speed and efficiency of application on large sites, but the smaller tank allows for ease of access in restricted height/access areas. This means we can undertake any scale of work in a safe and efficient manner, while meeting project deadlines.

Site Preparation

Hydrosprigging should take place after deep ripping, scarifying and topsoiling has occurred and the prepared surface should be free of weeds and large stones.

Standard Application Rate

- ❖ Stolons/Sprigs - Rates will vary according to the season, soil condition and site requirements. Typical sowing rates are 10-40 m³/ha
- ❖ Fertiliser - Selection will depend on soil analysis results and requirements. Typical rates are 250-500kg/ha
- ❖ Mulch - Timber fibre or cellulose mulch (recycled paper) at rates of 1500-2000kg/ha with a binder at a rate of 60-80kg/ha.

Advantages of Hydrosprigging

- ❖ Some varieties of grass are not available in seed form, and can only be established using sprigs, this method allows flexibility in selection of grass varieties.
- ❖ Unlike seed, sprigs are wet when applied to the surface, given adequate watering the sprigs will not dry out.
- ❖ Sown sprigs are already 'live' and quickly establish in situ.
- ❖ Hydrosprigging ensures an even distribution of the sprigs and prevents the row effect that is often encountered with mechanical sprigging or conventional seeding. It also ensures a more even cover than can be achieved by hand distribution.
- ❖ The use of mulch in the operation provides a moisture retentive agent which not only keeps the sprigs damp, but generally reduces the amount of watering that is required with other sprigging or seeding operations.
- ❖ A binder or tackifier is added to the Hydrosprigging slurry to give further protection against storms and heavy rainfall and help bind the slurry to the prepared surface.