



Coping with drought

10 tips for professional landscapers laying turf.

Provided by the Turfgrass Growers Association

- 1** Plan ahead to prevent the turf drying out. Don't have more turf delivered in a day than you can lay.
- 2** Only buy turf from a TGA grower or one of its stockists. That way you'll know the turf is fresh when you buy it.
- 3** Buy the right grade of turf for the job in hand. Your TGA grower or stockist will have the knowledge to help you make the best selection.
- 4** When the turf is delivered, stack it in a shady place with the aim of laying all that is delivered during the course of one day.
- 5** Using water from a butt or recycled in an alternative way, prepare and wet the ground immediately before laying the turf. Consider incorporating a water-retaining soil conditioner to help keep the soil moist.
- 6** To conserve water, lay and water-in no more than 20% of the delivery at a time. This means the first turf you lay won't have dried out by the time you reach the end of the job.
- 7** Give the turf a light rolling to ensure good contact with the soil underneath.
- 8** In the following days, advise your client to only water in the early morning or early evening, so the sun doesn't burn off the water that's applied.
- 9** Ask your client to hold back on the mowing. The blades of grass should be at least one inch in height.
- 10** As the lawn establishes over the first 28 days, advise your client to water less and less frequently, ensuring it doesn't dry out and turn brown.



After 28 days, the lawn should be well established and ready for your client to enjoy!

To locate your nearest TGA grower, for further guidance on selecting and managing turf and for help with common turf problems, visit www.turfgrass.co.uk.