

FOUR ways to sell turf using levy-funded research



Turf is a bushfire retardant

A recent study confirmed that not only is living turf a natural bushfire-resilient retardant, but synthetic grass does not share those properties.

Samples of buffalo, couch and kikuyu were all subjected to ignition tests at varying fuel moisture levels to understand the combustibility of these turf types, with the experiment ultimately finding that when alive, none of the turf species were able to sustain ignition in simulated bushfire environments.

Learn more about the project *'Conveying the benefits of living turf – a bushfire retardant'* (TU17008) at the [Turf Australia website](#).



Turf cools our cities and our homes

Coming to grips with a world where our big cities are recording temperatures over 45°C, we must be thinking about how we can cool the area around us.

A study looking at surface temperatures in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide found that the surface temperature of living turf was nearly 5°C cooler than regional averages, whereas bitumen was nearly 5°C warmer than average and synthetic turf nearly 11°C above average.

Learn more about the project *'Conveying the benefits of living turf - Mitigation of the urban heat island effect'* (TU18000) at the [Turf Australia website](#).



Turf is a sponge for carbon dioxide

A study of Australian turf farms found that on average, each square metre of turf removes 2.5kg of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Also, unlike almost every other possible ground cover, turf comes with no end-of-life disposal problems which further contribute to poor environmental outcomes.

So when it comes to choosing an environmentally friendly surface, turf is best.

Learn more about the project *'An Environmental Assessment of the Australian Turf Growing Industry'* (TU16000) at the [Turf Australia website](#).



Turf increases the value of your home

According to Hort Innovation, Australia's peak body for horticulture, having a natural turf lawn can boost property value by over \$100,000.

In addition, turf increases rental yields for property investors. A study into the economic benefits of turf found that the extra rent a property earns as a result of installing turf can reach up to \$4.45 per square metre a year for a city like Sydney.

Learn more about the project *'Economic, environmental, social and health impacts and benefits of the turfgrass and lawncare industries' in Australia* (TU17006) at the [Turf Australia website](#).

Understanding your turf levy

Turf growers pay a levy on all turf sold in order to fund R&D and marketing activities. The grower-raised statutory turf Research & Development levy is set at 1.2 cents per square metre of turf sold and the marketing levy is set at 0.3 cents per square metre. The money raised through the R&D levy is matched by the Australian Government. These levies are collected by the Australian Government and then entrusted to Hort Innovation. It is then Hort Innovation's responsibility to work with industry to invest the levies – together with Australian Government funds in the case of R&D – into strategic R&D and marketing initiatives.

CHOOSE NATURAL. CHOOSE LIVING. CHOOSE TURF.