



Langebaan Country Estate

PLANTING SPECIFICATIONS

Appendix II of the Langebaan Country Estate Landscape Guideline
Document Part 3

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Langebaan Country Estate Joint Venture

Tannery Park, 1st Floor, West Block, 23 Belmont Road, Rondebosch 7700, P. O. Box 646 Rondebosch 7701
tel +27 21 686 5220 fax +27 21 686 5606 email admin@langebaanestate.co.za
www.langebaanestate.co.za



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To be read in conjunction with “Environmental Restoration” in the Langebaan Country Estate Landscape Guideline Document Part 3.

1. PREPARATION

- 1.1 Areas to be planted are to be cleared of all debris, builder’s rubble, cement and oil spills.
- 1.2 Excavate and/or fill to achieve rough grades and spread topsoil mix were applicable (detailed below).

2. TOPSOIL MIX

- 2.1 Mix 2 parts topsoil to one part compost.
- 2.2 Use stockpiled topsoil, and extra imported topsoil if required.
 - Acceptable imported topsoil shall be a sand loam to sand clay loam with an ideal composition of 15-25%clay; 10% silt; 65-75% sand.
 - The minimum organic material must be 10% and the topsoil must be free of any harmful salts, substances and seeds.
 - The pH shall be between 7.0 and 8.0.
 - No soil particles and stones larger than 2mm diameter will be allowed in any ratio in the topsoil.
- 2.3 Commercially prepared compost such as “Reliance Ecomix” or the equivalent is recommended.
 - Compost should be of partially decomposed fibrous or cellular material and leaves with a texture varying from porous fibrous to spongy fibrous, fairly elastic and substantially homogenous with a pH value of not less than 5.5 and not greater than 7.5.
 - It must be free of decomposed colloidal residue, wood, sulphur and iron, be brown in colour and finely shredded, decomposed and suitable for horticultural purposes.
- 2.4 Add organic fertiliser such as “Newtror” or the equivalent at a rate of 1kg / m³.
- 2.5 No chemical fertilizers are permitted.
- 2.6 Add bonemeal at a rate of 1kg/ m³.
A further 50g/m² of bonemeal should be applied by dusting the plants rootballs at the time of planting.



2.7 Mix compost, insitu soil, imported soil, organic fertilizer and bonemeal into a homogenous topsoil mix and spread over area to be planted to the following depths:

- Lawn areas: 150mm deep
- Shrubs: 300mm deep
- Trees: 1.0 x 1.0 x 1.0m deep

3. MULCH

3.1 Apply a 50mm layer of wood chips or “Reliance coarse mulch” or equivalent to the soil surface after planting to reduce the water evaporation, moderate the soil temperatures smother weed growth and provide additional nutrients.

4. PLANTING

4.1 Lawn areas

- Rake prepared area to desired contours and levels.
- Moisten surface of topsoil mix using a hand-held hosepipe with a fine spray.
- Lay the grass sods on top, or plant grass plugs, or seed.
- Compress lightly to even out grass sods.
- Water well with a hand-held hosepipe with fine spray.

4.2 Planting areas

- Remove the plant from its container.
- Dust plants roots with bonemeal.
- Make hole in topsoil mix and place plant in hole.
- Top of soil ball to be level with finished ground level.
- Backfill and compress topsoil mix.
- Spread a 50mm layer of mulch on top.
- Water well with a hand-held hosepipe directly after planting.

4.3 Trees

- Remove the tree from its container.
- Dust tree rootball with bonemeal.
- Place tree in hole when soil is at a height to allow the base of the tree to be flush with the top of the hole i.e. top of soil ball to be level with finished ground level.
- Continue backfilling topsoil mix in layers around the rootball.
- Compress topsoil mix well and spread a 50mm layer of mulch on top.
- Water well with a hand-held hosepipe directly after planting.



- All trees over 1 metre in height should be braced upright in position by stakes. The stakes shall be equally spaced about each tree, sharpened at one end, driven vertically into the ground. Fasten trees to the stake with tree ties, in such a manner as not to injure the tree stems.

5. HANDLING OF PLANT MATERIAL

- 5.1 All plants must be well protected against damage and drying out from the time of arrival and until they are planted on the site.
- 5.2 Promptly after arrival of the plants, water them well and spray each plant with a solution of Wilt-Pruf (One part Wilt-Pruf to 10 parts water). Spray the solution to the point of run-off, both on the upper and lower side of the leaves. This operation is to be carried out in the morning of a sunny day, so that the plants can stand at least 5 hours without rain washing the leaves off.
- 5.3 Any plastic or metal containers must be removed completely without damaging the rootball.
- 5.4 All shrubs and small trees must be handled by the rootball and not by the plant stem.
- 5.5 No roots should be cut or pruned. No roots should be split or torn. Should pruning be necessary, the rootball must be cut at the edge of the ball with clean, sterilised and sharp tools. A 1:10 solution of Sodium Hypochlorite (Jik) can be used to sterilise tools prior to use.
- 5.6 Plants should be transported with care taken to prevent damage. Branches should be carefully tied in such a manner so as not to break or damage trunks. Points of contact with equipment should be padded.
- 5.7 Rootballs, trunks, branches and leaves should be protected from sun and wind desiccation.

6. PRUNING

- 6.1 The amount of pruning should be limited to the minimum necessary to remove dead or injured branches and to compensate for the loss of roots as a result of transplanting operations.
- 6.2 Generally, a maximum of 1/3 of the wood of deciduous plants can be removed by thinning or shortening of branches.
- 6.3 Pruning should be done in such a manner as to preserve the natural character of the plants.



- 6.4 All cuts must be clean and flush, leaving no stubs. Cuts, bruises or scars on the bark should be traced back to living tissue and removed.
- 6.5 The affected areas should be shaped so as not to retain water and it is recommended that all cuts exceeding 15mm should be painted with a tree wound sealer, immediately after having been cut.

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