

Economy without compromise

Tas Turf, Hobart Tasmania

Reducing fertiliser costs without compromising performance has long been a dream for councils managing fairways, sportsfields, parks and lawns. Many Tasmanian councils are now using Scotts Sportsmaster as a broad-acre fertiliser – turning the dream into reality.

Support on the ground

Doug Ollington, General Manager, Tas Turf (Scotts Tasmanian distributor), works closely with Kingborough, Burnie City and Hobart City Councils, all of which have been using the Sportsmaster range for many years. "The feedback I receive about Scotts Sportsmaster," he says, "is that it gives councils the longevity – the product says it gives 2-3 months slow release fertiliser, and it does. A lot of councils use Sportsmaster twice a year – Spring and Autumn – and they get the results they're after."

Doug says, "With a lot of fertilisers, you get a total upfront of Nitrogen resulting in a big surge of growth where you've got to cut three times a week! With Sportsmaster, because it's slow release, you're getting controlled growth over a period of time – you're maintaining your mowing on your normal schedule."

Doug's customers often turn to him for advice. "Down here, in Tasmania, we don't have the higher temperatures they have on the mainland, so some of the totally-coated products don't work as well early or late in the season when the temperatures are cooler. That's where Sportsmaster works well down here – the upfront Nitrogen is ideal in early Spring and there's enough slow release when temperatures rise in late Spring through to early Summer."

Teaming Sportsmaster with Sierrablen for a total solution

While Sportsmaster is the ideal product for broad-acre, Doug will often recommend totally-coated, controlled release fertilisers, from the Scotts Sierrablen range, for premium grounds.



If a fertiliser is needed for premium grounds, he often recommends controlled-release Sierrablen. "It's a longer-term release and a totally-coated product, with both phosphorus and potassium in the longer-term release as well as nitrogen.

"Also, if you're doing a big park that's near a waterway, then a totally-coated, controlled-release fertiliser like Sierrablen is better because it doesn't leach all those nutrients into the waterway. That's where your coated products come in as environmentally friendly as well."

Sportsmaster and Sierrablen often work well together as part of a total program. Consult a Scotts distributor today, for specific advice on which product is best suited for your purposes.