Empire Turf Strengthens Soil almost 40% more than Bermuda and Kikuyu

Recently, Ian Paananan, lead scientist at Crop and Nursery services was contracted to test the strengthening effect that Empire Turf has on soil compared to Bermuda and Kikuyu. He used a recently calibrated Controls T174 Shear Vane tester, on 30 randomly selected sample areas of each of the varieties. The test results were taken from 6 replicated plots of each variety. All plots were grown using the same conditions, and at the same time.

Crop and Nursery services, the independent consultant that tested Empire’s soil strength, also took samples of the 3 turf types, with the aim of finding out which turf type has more rhizomes. The top parts of the turf (above ground parts), mainly leaf and stem were removed with a shear. Then 30 cm squares were taken at a depth of approximately 18 cm. The soil was then washed off the samples. Once this was done, each sample was weighed. Only rhizomes and roots were left.

Results: The Empire had underground roots and rhizomes weighing 290 grams, while Kikuyu had 220 grams, and Bermuda had 200 grams per 0.9 of a square metre. The extra amount of underground mass explains why Empire strengthens the soil more.

Empire Turf has more rhizomes than Bermuda and Kikuyu. This is one reason why it strengthens the soil more.