

# Newsletter Professional Turf



## Natural or artificial grass

Municipalities and sports clubs are often confronted with the choice between natural and artificial grass for sports fields.

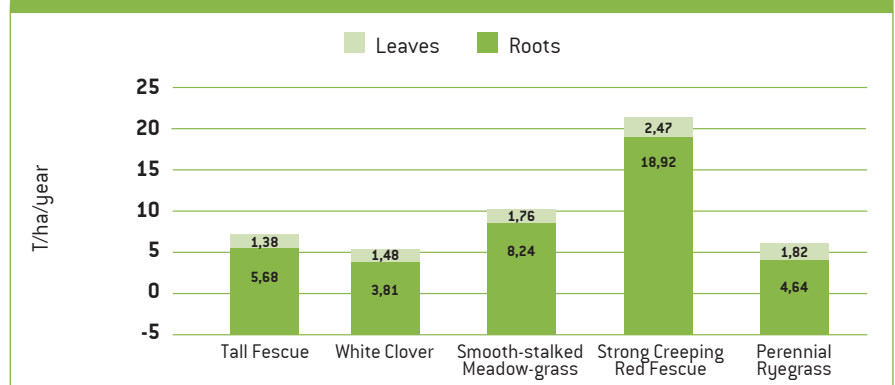


**One of the strongest arguments for installing natural turf is that it is by far the most sustainable, and environmentally/carbon-friendly option.**

Many clubs and municipalities are actively seeking to cut their carbon footprint or become carbon neutral. Installing and preserving natural pitches can be a vital contributor to this goal. To support this - every artificial pitch that is installed, a natural pitch needs to be established to offset/compensate for the greenhouse gasses produced and neutralise the carbon effect.

It is interesting to note that the annual oxygen production and carbon dioxide fixation from one hectare of grass exceeds that of one hectare of forest! A football pitch of 10.000 m<sup>2</sup> sequesters an average of 12 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year!

### THE OVERALL CO<sub>2</sub> CAPTURED IN THE PLANT-TONS/YEARS



DLF-TRIFOLIUM is patenting a method for measuring the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> captured by turfgrass plants. We have found significant differences in species but all species have a very positive contribution to the positive storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in leaves and roots.

The next step is to measure the differences between varieties. Here the new slow, low and dense growing varieties are expected to be the superior ones.

The European Seed Association (ESA) have published a folder listing the benefits of natural grass. The folder "natural turf-why it remains the natural choice for football, sports and playing surfaces" can be found on our website [www.dlf.com](http://www.dlf.com) or on ESA's website [euroseeds.org](http://euroseeds.org).