

News Post

Thursday

48p

English grass is the best, say Americans! *A new export market set to open*

Turf grower's bonanza!

Turf growers in England have been discovered by the Americans. Apparently they envy our typical English green lawns of smooth, well-mown grass which grow in our gardens, and surround so many of our housing estates. As a result, a firm in Florida, GreenGrass Inc., has decided to import English grass.

The Director of GreenGrass Inc., Howard Johnson Jr., explained that he had had the idea as he flew in to England for a meeting one morning. As his plane waited to land he noticed how green the countryside was, compared to America. As the plane got lower, he could see all the green lawns in the gardens. *"I suddenly realised that there would be a market for good English grass in America,"* he said. *"My neighbour had just been complaining to me before I left home about the lawn behind his house. It was yellow and patchy, instead of the lush green you have here in England."*



Great conditions

Mr. Johnson went on to explain that the conditions in England were suited to growing grass. In America, the summers can be very hot and dry, while winters become very cold indeed, often with lots of snow.

A market for grass

Mr. Johnson visited turf growers all round the country, and has now got a contract to buy English turf for export to America. It will be grown here, and then transported in rolls, similar to the way we can buy it here.

"I have already arranged to sell all my first batch to a landscape gardening company in Florida, who have a contract to make the lawns for a new group of houses being built," explained Mr. Johnson.

Another company who landscape new housing estates all over America has also asked to buy stocks of the English turf. It is becoming very popular now to provide turf surrounds to the houses, because it looks much nicer than bare concrete and tarmac.

If the idea becomes as popular as Mr. Johnson thinks, then turf growers in this country have cause to thank our English weather for providing the ideal conditions for grass growing! So next time you complain about the mild but wet spring and summer weather, spare a thought for the turf growers, who will be helping fund a major new export market!

Activity 2: Growth record sheet



Tray number

Put a circle round each growing condition in your test:

warm

dark

coir

water

light

cold

air

soil

sand

seed compost

What we predict will happen to our seeds:

We have cut strips of paper the same length as the longest plant every 3 days, and stuck them on this chart.

Day 3	Day 6	Day 9	Day 12	Day 15	Day 18	Day 21	Day 24

Activity 3: Growth record sheet



We are growing our plant with the following conditions : _____

We predict that our plants will _____

We will measure the longest plant and the shortest. We will find the average height.

Day	Longest	Shortest	Average
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			

Activity 4: Growth record sheet



We are growing our plant with the following conditions : _____

We predict that our plants will _____

Every 3 days we will measure the height of 10 plants, and work out the average height.

Day	Plant 1	Plant 2	Plant 3	Plant 4	Plant 5	Plant 6	Plant 7	Plant 8	Plant 9	Plant 10	Plant Average
3											
6											
9											
12											
15											
18											
21											
24											
27											