FAQs

What does the FIFA Quality Concept for football turf mean?
FIFA’s quality concept is designed to guarantee the highest quality standard for football turf and continuous development. Artificial pitches which achieve this standard in terms of robustness and safety following analysis are awarded the “FIFA RECOMMENDED” quality seal. The analysis is conducted by independent test institutes under laboratory conditions and also on the actual pitch that has been laid down. FIFA-certified pitches are permitted for international competitions and are already accepted by numerous professional leagues around the world.

How good is football turf as an alternative to natural turf?
In recent years, football turf has emerged as the best alternative to natural turf. Owing to weather conditions and organisational or economic reasons, it is not always possible to ensure that natural-grass football pitches are playable. FIFA therefore recommends the use of high-quality football turf. This is weather-resistant, provides the end user with more playing hours and can be used all year round for football matches and other events. For operators, these properties are reflected in lower operating costs and higher revenue.

Is there any difference between matches on football turf and natural turf?
Numerous studies by medical institutes, player surveys and direct comparisons in tournaments and league matches have shown that games played on high-quality football turf do not differ from those played on natural turf. Nor is there any difference in the risk of injury. Detailed case studies on this subject are available in the Library section at fifa.com/footballturf.

What is the difference between FIFA RECOMMENDED 1 STAR and 2 STAR pitches?
FIFA RECOMMENDED 1 STAR pitches are tailored to the requirements in the amateur sector (municipal centres, sports grounds for national football matches), whereas 2 STAR pitches cater for the most stringent demands in top-class international sport. All the existing 1 STAR and 2 STAR pitches in the world can be found using the FIFA search function at fifa.com/footballturf.

More information about the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf, the FIFA Preferred Producers as well as FIFA RECOMMENDED Football Turf pitches is available at: www.fifa.com/footballturf
E-Mail: football.turf@fifa.org