

Claycourt surface guide: *Italian Clay*



Surface

Italian Clay Court.
Automatic sprinkler system, supplemented by hand watering.

Material profile

Imported materials

1. Sotto manto (under layer) heart.
2. Manto (final layer) dust.

Australian base layer materials of blue metal/scoria.

Research undertaken

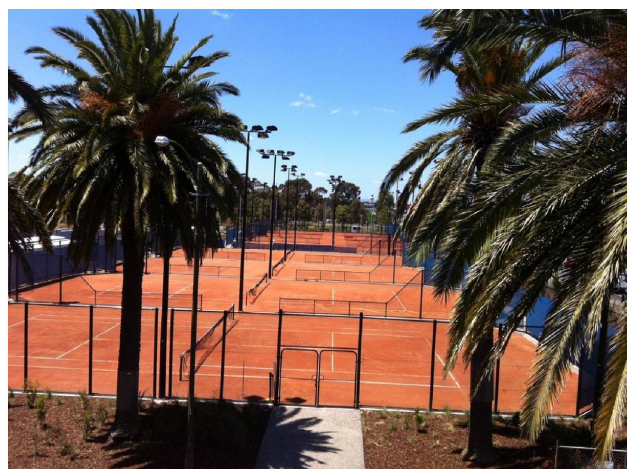
- Materials tested by Australian soil expert, engineers and court builders.
- Test patches (10) – extensive testing with different products.
- Terry Rocavert – 2009 trip to Europe to obtain a complete understanding of clay courts.
- Test court – Macquarie University, Sydney November 2010.

Maintenance requirements

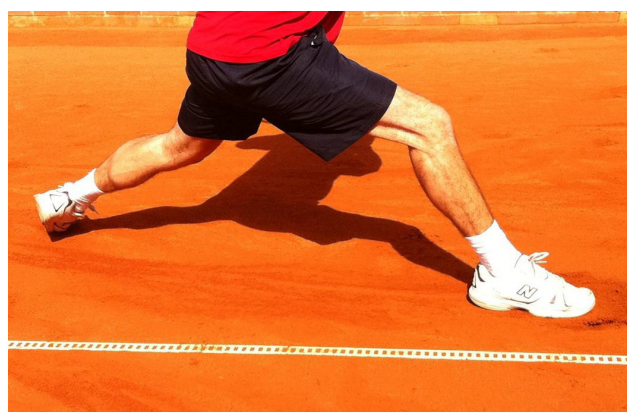
- Reduced maintenance due to no shrink/swell – no breaking up or cracking.
- Regular maintenance of bagging the court in different directions.
- Sweeping the lines before watering.
- Watering the court depending on moisture levels and weather conditions.
- Adding additional materials (fines) as required.

Playing characteristics

- Slower court surface, creates longer rallies.
- The ball bounces slower and higher.
- Conducive to spin (topspin/slice).
- Very good traction, which instils confidence in sliding.



8 Courts – Melbourne Park



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