CHAPTER 2 - ECOLOGY AND LANDSCAPING

302.01 LOCAL SPECIES

Silver Sa'fa

INTENT

To enhance the local biodiversity by encouraging the use of indigenous plants thereby reducing the water usage and achieve cost savings in utility bills.

REQUIREMENT

For all new buildings, a minimum of 25% of the total planted area within the building plot, including green roofs, must utilise plant and tree species indigenous or adapted to Dubai's climate and region.

In addition to above, for all new villas at least one palm tree must be planted.

SIGNIFICANCE

Landscaped and vegetated areas provide a good aesthetic viewing and a comfortable outdoor space. Developing and maintaining the landscaped areas may require high water consumption. The water demand depends on the plant species. Turf and several non-native plants consume large volumes of water, while native and adaptive plants require less.

Efficient use of water resources is a key element for sustainable development. Landscape with native and adaptive plants not only reduces the overall irrigation demand, it also helps in integrating the building site with its natural surroundings and enhances the local biodiversity. As native plants are well suited for local site conditions, they require less soil modifications and fertilizer quantities, thereby aids in reducing operating costs. The culture and heritage of Dubai also gets reflected by the use of native plant species.

APPLICABILITY

This regulation is applicable to all building types. Refer to Table 101.07(1) in Section One - Administration for detailed applicability levels.

IMPLEMENTATION

This regulation requires that a minimum of 25% of the total planted area of a building plot utilises plant and tree species appropriate for Dubai's climate. The total planted area is defined as the total external landscaped area of a building plot, including landscaped areas on roofs (vegetated roofs). Landscaped areas are those with trees, shrubs, grasses, or planted beds, including xeriscape areas, i.e. landscaping that is designed specifically to minimise water use.