

SECTION 32 92 23 - SODDING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

- A. Section Includes: Sodding of Lawn Areas.

1.2 REFERENCES

- A. ASTM-ASTM International: D 1557-Test Method for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Modified Effort.

1.3 DEFINITIONS

- A. Acceptance: Wherever the terms "acceptance," "accepted," or "acceptable" are used herein, they mean acceptance by the Owner in writing.
- B. Excessive Compaction: Planting area soil compaction greater than 75% maximum dry density as determined by ASTM D 1557.

1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. General Requirements: Refer to Division 1.
- B. Product Data: Sod.

1.5 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Regulatory Requirements: Provide for inspections and permits required by federal, state and local authorities in furnishing, transporting, and installing materials.

1.6 PRODUCT DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING

- A. Harvest and Delivery of Sod:
 - 1. Harvest from the source and deliver to project site within 24 hours.
 - 2. Deliver only as much sod as can be installed within 24 hours after harvest.
 - 3. Sod not transplanted within 24 hours after harvest will be rejected.
- B. Storage and Protection: Protect sod which cannot immediately be laid by storing in shade and keeping it fresh with moistened burlap.

1.7 WARRANTY

- A. Warranty Period: Warrant that grasses shall be in a healthy and flourishing condition of active growth at the end of the next growing season after the date of Final Acceptance.
- B. Condition: Free of dead or dying patches, and areas shall show foliage of normal density, size and color.
- C. Delays: Delays in completion of planting operations which extend the planting into more than one planting season shall extend the Warranty period correspondingly.
- D. Coverage: Warrant growth and coverage of sod to the effect that a minimum of 95% of the area sodded shall be covered with specified planting after one growing season with no bare spots greater than 1 square foot.
- E. Replacement: As soon as weather conditions permit, re-sod, without additional cost to the Owner, areas of dead sod not in a vigorous, thriving condition, during and at the end of the Warranty Period.

F. Requirements for Replacements: Apply requirements of this Section to replacement Work.

1.8 MAINTENANCE – Not Used

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 MATERIALS

A. Sod:

1. Type: Bermuda or St. Augustine
2. Quality:
 - a. Dense, healthy, field-grown on fumigated soil with the grass having been mowed at 1½ to 2” height before lifting from field.
 - b. Dark green in color, relatively free of thatch, free from diseases, weeds and harmful insects.
 - c. Reasonably free of objectionable grassy and broadleaf weeds. Sod will be considered weed free if no more than 10 such weeds are found per hundred square feet of sod.
 - d. Free of Bermuda grass, Quackgrass, Johnson grass, Poison Ivy, Nimbleweed, Thistle, Bindweed, Bentgrass, Perennial Sorrel, Bromegrass.
 - e. Soil depth of ½” plus or minus ⅛”
 - f. Strong enough that handling will not tear sod.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

- A. General: Examine site and verify that conditions are suitable to receive work and that no defects or errors are present which would cause defective installation of products or cause latent defects in workmanship and function.
- B. Finish Grade and Soil Preparation Verification: Verify finish grading and soil preparation work is complete.

3.2 PREPARATION

- A. Protection of Existing Conditions:
 1. Use adequate precautions to prevent damage to existing conditions to remain such as structures, utilities, plant materials and walks on or adjacent to the site of the work.
 2. Use every possible precaution to prevent excessive compaction of planting area soil within or adjacent to the areas of work.
 3. Provide barricades, fences or other barriers to protect existing conditions to remain from damage during construction.
 4. Do not store materials or equipment, permit burning, or operate or park equipment under the branches of existing plants to remain.
 5. Submit written notification of damaged plants and structures to the Owner's Representative immediately.

- B. Soil Surface Preparation: Prior to installing sod, manually remove and dispose of rocks and clods larger than ½" diameter from soil surface using rakes.

3.3 SODDING

A. Timing:

1. Install sod within 24 hours of delivery.
2. Sod not transplanted within 24 hours of delivery will be rejected.

B. Rolling Sod Bed:

1. Roll amended soil in lawn areas with 200-pound water-ballast roller.
2. Tamp surfaces of lawn joint planting soil mix firm, to level indicated on the Drawings.

C. Moistening Sod Bed: After unevenness in the soil surface has been corrected, lightly moisten the soil immediately prior to laying the sod.

D. Handling Sod:

1. Handle sod gently enough to avoid stretching or tearing pieces.
2. Carry sod pieces rolled or folded.
3. Do not carry sod pieces by one end.

E. Laying Sod:

1. Lay the first row of sod in a straight line, with subsequent rows parallel to and tightly against each other, with no spaces between strips.
2. Stagger joints so none of the adjacent pieces align.
3. Do not stretch or overlap sod.
4. Butt joints tightly to eliminate gaps without stretching sod.
5. Use a sharp knife to cut sod to fit angles and curves.
6. Avoid installing small sod strips at edges.
7. Water completed sections lightly during installation to keep moist before post installation irrigation of entire area.
8. Do not repeatedly walk or kneel directly on sod during installation to avoid indentations and air pockets.
9. When necessary to walk on sod during installation, lay down minimum ¾" thick plywood to protect areas to be walked on.
10. Remove protection plywood as soon as possible to avoid smothering sod.

F. Tamping and Rolling Sod:

1. Thoroughly tamp and roll sod with a 200-pound water-ballast roller to make contact with sod bed.
2. Roll each entire section of completed sod.

G. Watering: Thoroughly water sod immediately after installation to wet the underside of the new sod pad and the soil immediately below to a depth of 6".

3.4 PROTECTION

A. Sod Damage and Excessive Compaction:

1. Restrict vehicular and foot traffic from new sod for 4 weeks after installation.
2. After 4 weeks, do not allow equipment, vehicular, or foot traffic on sodded areas, except for lawn mowers and landscape maintenance personnel.

END OF 32 92 23