

329201 - SODDING

1.2 SUMMARY

Section Includes:

- Preparation of subsoil.
- Placing topsoil.
- Fertilizing.
- Sod installation.
- Maintenance.

1.3 REFERENCES

- A. American Society for Testing and Materials:
 - 1. ASTM C602 – Standard Specification for Agricultural Liming Materials.
- B. Turfgrass Producers International:
 - 1. TPI – Guideline Specifications to Turfgrass Sodding.

1.4 MAINTENANCE SERVICE

- A. Maintain sodded areas immediately after placement until grass is well established and exhibits vigorous growing condition for two cuttings.

1.5 SOD

Sod: TPI defined field grown standard grade; cultivated grass sod; type indicated below; with strong fibrous root system, free of stones, burned or bare spots; containing no more than 5 weeds per 1000 sq ft.

Kentucky Bluegrass Blend Grass Type: 100 percent.

1.6 SOIL MATERIALS

Topsoil: Fertile, agricultural soil, typical for locality, capable of sustaining vigorous plant growth, taken from drained site; free of subsoil, clay, or impurities, plants, weeds and roots; pH value of minimum 6.0 and maximum 7.0.

1.7 ACCESSORIES

Fertilizer: Commercial grade; recommended for grass, with fifty percent of elements derived from organic sources; of proportion necessary to eliminate deficiencies of topsoil recommended by soil analysis.

Lime: ASTM C602, Class O agricultural limestone containing a minimum 80 percent calcium carbonate equivalent.

Water: Clean, fresh and free of substances or matter capable of inhibiting vigorous growth of grass.

Wood Pegs: Softwood, sufficient size and length to anchor sod on slope.

1.8 HARVESTING SOD

Machine cut sod flat or in rolls in accordance with TPI.

1.9 SOURCE QUALITY CONTROL

Analyze to ascertain percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus, potash, soluble salt content, organic matter content, and pH value. Provide recommendation for fertilizer and lime application rates for specified sod grass species as result of testing. Testing is not required when recent tests are available for imported topsoil. Submit these test results to testing laboratory. Indicate, by test results, information necessary to determine suitability.

1.10 PREPARATION OF SUBSOIL

Prepare sub-soil and eliminate uneven areas and low spots.

Maintain lines, levels, profiles and contours. Make changes in grade gradual. Blend slopes into level areas.

Remove foreign materials and undesirable plants and their roots. Do not bury foreign material beneath areas to be sodded.

Remove contaminated subsoil.

Scarify sub-soil to depth of 4 inches where topsoil is to be placed.

Repeat cultivation in areas where equipment, used for hauling and spreading topsoil, has compacted subsoil.

1.11 PLACING TOPSOIL

Spread topsoil to minimum depth of 6 inches over area to be sodded.

Place topsoil during dry weather and on dry unfrozen subgrade.

Remove vegetative matter and foreign non-organic material from topsoil while spreading.

Grade topsoil to eliminate rough, low or soft areas and to ensure positive drainage.

1.12 FERTILIZING

Apply lime at application rate recommended by soil analysis. Work lime into top 6 inches of soil.

Apply fertilizer at application rate recommended by soil analysis.

Apply fertilizer after smooth raking of topsoil and prior to installation of sod.

Apply fertilizer no more than 48 hours before laying sod.

Lightly water soil to aid dissipation of fertilizer.

1.13 LAYING SOD

Moisten prepared surface immediately prior to laying sod.

Lay sod within 24 hours after harvesting to prevent deterioration.

Lay sod tight with no open joints visible, and no overlapping; stagger end joints 12 inches minimum. Do not stretch or overlap sod pieces.

Lay smooth. Align with adjoining grass areas.

Place top elevation of sod 1/2 inch below adjoining edging, paving and curbs.

- a. On slopes 6 inches per foot and steeper, lay sod perpendicular to slope and secure every row with wooden pegs at maximum 2 feet on center. When using "big roll", lay sod parallel to slope. Drive pegs flush with soil portion of sod.
- b. Do not place sod when temperature is lower than 32 degrees F.
- c. Water sodded areas immediately after installation and for ten (10) consecutive days after placement and an additional 20 days as needed in the absence of rainfall or until established. When watering, soil should be saturated to a depth of 4 inches.

1.14 MAINTENANCE – PER PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Mow grass 2 times to maintain at maximum height of 2-1/2 inches. Do not cut more than 1/3 of grass blade at each mowing.

Neatly trim edges and hand clip where necessary.

Immediately remove excessive clippings after mowing and trimming.

Water to prevent grass and soil from drying out.

Control growth of weeds. Apply herbicides. Remedy damage resulting from improper use of herbicides.

Immediately replace sod on areas showing deterioration or bare spots.

Protect sodded areas with warning signs during maintenance period.