

SECTION 604

SODDING

I. GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION OF WORK

The Contractor shall furnish all labor, supervision, material (except as herein provided), tools, equipment, supplies, and services; and, shall perform all Work necessary for preparing sod beds; furnishing and placing sod; and furnishing and applying lime, fertilizer, topsoil, and water at locations designated in the Contract Documents or selected by the Owner.

1.2 MATERIALS

Sod, fertilizer, lime, and topsoil shall conform to the requirements of Section 200.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

Prior to use or placement, the Contractor shall submit certifications in the form of affidavits from the material suppliers, together with supporting data, attesting that the composition of lime, fertilizer, and sod meet specification requirements.

II. EXECUTION

2.1 PROCEDURES

A. Preparing Sod Beds:

1. Soil on which sod is to be placed shall be shaped to an even surface and graded to such an elevation that sod and adjacent surfaces will have a smooth contour.
2. Lime shall be uniformly applied to areas to receive sod at the rate of approximately 2 tons per acre.
3. Fertilizer shall be uniformly applied to areas designated to receive sod at the rate of 16-1/2 pounds of 15-30-15 fertilizer, or an equivalent quantity of 1-2-1 fertilizer, and 10 pounds of ureaformaldehyde per 1,000 square feet. Fertilizer shall have a guaranteed nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium (N-P-K) analysis as indicated in the Contract Documents, with a minimum 30 percent of the nitrogen from a slow release or slowly soluble source. Following application of lime and fertilizer, the soil shall be thoroughly cultivated to a depth of 2 to 3 inches and sprinkled with sufficient water to moisten the cultivated soil.

B. Placing Sod:

1. Sod shall not be placed at any time the ambient temperature is below 32° F. Frozen sod shall not be placed, and sod shall not be placed on frozen soil. Sod shall be placed by hand, and joints shall tightly abut without overlapping. Open joints and gaps shall be plugged with sod that has been cut to the size and shape of the opening.

2. Sod shall be placed on sloping areas beginning at the bottom of the slope. Sod shall be placed in horizontal strips with the long edges of rectangular pads parallel to the contour. When practicable, horizontal joints shall be reasonably straight and vertical joints staggered. In areas where sod pads may be displaced by foot traffic during sodding operations, ladders or treaded planks shall be used.
3. Sod placed on slopes steeper than 2:1 shall be anchored in place with wood stakes driven flush with the top of the sod. Stakes shall be at least 8-inches in length with a cross-sectional area of approximately 1 square inch. The number and spacing of stakes shall be adequate to hold sod securely in place. Special attention shall be given to anchoring sod placed in drainage ditches, channels, and swales.
4. After sod has been placed, joints and gaps that were too small to be effectively plugged with sod shall be filled with loamy topsoil.
5. Sodded areas shall be watered thoroughly and rolled or tamped to press the root system of the sod into full contact with underlying soil. Sod shall be re-rolled as directed by the Owner to ensure full soil contact, and prevent unevenness at seams.
6. Sodded areas shall be kept watered as required to maintain the life and growth of the sod until final acceptance.

2.2 CLEANUP AND PROTECTION

- A. The Contractor shall keep pavements clean and the Work area in an orderly condition.
- B. The Contractor shall protect landscape Work and materials from damage due to landscape operations, operations by other contractors and trades and trespassers; and, shall maintain protection during installation and maintenance periods.
- C. All dead or dying sod shall be replaced at no additional cost to the Owner.

III. MEASUREMENT FOR PAYMENT

- A. Sodding shall include lime, fertilizer and water, will be measured and paid in square yards of surface area, complete-in-place.
- B. Incidental items are identified in Section 109.I.1.2 and also include the following:
 1. Site & bed preparation
 2. Maintaining sodded areas until final acceptance.

End of Section