
SODDING

PART 1 GENERAL**1.1 Description of Work**

- .1 This section describes the labour, materials, and installation requirements necessary to complete the sodding turf planting related items as indicated or specified.

1.2 Related Work

- .1 All Division 1 Specification Sections
- .2 Section [02906](#) Planting of Trees, Shrubs, Groundcovers & Transplanting
- .3 Section [02911](#) Site Topsoil & Finish Grading
- .4 Section [02924](#) Seeding

1.3 Scheduling

- .1 Scheduled sod laying to coincide with topsoil operations.
- .2 Do not lay sod until topsoil finished grade. Obtain approval of topsoil fine grade prior to sodding.

1.4 Certification

- .1 The supplier shall provide, upon request of the Contractor, a label or statement certifying the quality of grade, location of sod source and species of grass in the sod, and that the sod meets the specifications or requirements.

1.5 Delivery, Storage, And Acceptability

- .1 All sod shall be reviewed by the Contractor at the job site prior to installation. The Contractor reserves the right to refuse the sod if it is deemed unacceptable.
- .2 Schedule delivery in order to keep storage on the job site to a minimum without causing delays.
- .3 Each palette, flat, or specified group of sod shall be labelled by the grower or manufacturer as separate items.
- .4 During delivery, sod materials shall be protected from any drying or contamination by detrimental material.
- .5 Deliver sod to site within twenty-four (24) hours of being lifted and lay sod within thirty-six (36) hours of being lifted.
- .6 Do not deliver small, irregular, or broken pieces of sod.

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- .7 Turf materials shall be sprinkled with water and covered with moist burlap, straw, or other approved covering and protected from sun exposure to wind and direct sunlight. Covering shall be such that air can circulate and heating will not develop.
- .8 During dry weather protect sod from drying and water sod as necessary to ensure its vitality. Dry sod is to be rejected by the Contractor.
- .9 Deliver fertilizers and similar material to the site packed in standard containers, clearly marked with contents, weight, analysis, and name of manufacturer.
- .10 Store fertilizer in dry, weatherproof storage areas.

1.6 Alternatives

- .1 Should the Contractor proceed to use material not previously approved or materials contrary to the specifications, the Consultant will proceed to have such works rectified at the Contractor's expense.

1.7 Handling

- .1 Sod shall not be dropped or dumped from vehicles.

1.8 Source Quality Control

- .1 The Contractor shall:
 - .1 Supervise all work in this section including implementation and all maintenance until Substantial Performance of the Works.
 - .2 Shall obtain approvals for suppliers, Sub-Contractors, and materials to be used in this section of Work;
 - .3 Ensure the sod supplier meets the standards and requirements of the "Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario"
 - .4 Shall obtain approvals from Consultant of sod at source and submit proof to the Consultant that the sod delivered to the site was obtained from the approved source and is #1 Nursery Sod.

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PART 2 PRODUCTS**2.1 Materials**

- .1 Turf Grass Nursery Sod: specifically sown and cultivated in a nursery field all in compliance with the specifications published by Nursery Sod Growers Association of Ontario, Number One Grade Turfgrass Nursery Sod.
 - .1 Broken, dry, discoloured pieces will be rejected by the Consultant.
- .2 Size of Sections: Turfgrass shall be cut by able methods by machines designed for that purpose, to the suppliers length and width, plus or minus 12mm in width and plus or minus 5% in length. Broken pieces and torn or uneven ends are not acceptable.
- .3 Thickness of cut: Turfgrass sod shall be cut at a uniform soil thickness (excluding top growth and thatch) of 15mm plus or minus 5 min.
- .4 Strength of sod: Minimum age of twelve (12) months, with root development that will support its own weight without tearing, when suspended vertically by holding the upper two corners.
 - .1 Sod shall be strong enough that a nominal sized section can be grasped at one end, picked up and handled without damage.
 - .2 Sod shall have strong fibrous root system, free of stones, burned or bare spots.
- .5 Moisture Content: Turfgrass sod shall not be harvested or transplanted when its moisture content is too low or too high, resulting in potential damage to the sod.
- .6 Grass height: The height of the grass in the sod at the time of harvesting shall be between 40mm and 60mm.
- .7 Thatch: Turfgrass sod shall be reasonably free from thatch. Up to 10 mm of thatch (uncompressed) is acceptable.
- .8 Diseases, Fungi, Nematodes, Insects: Turfgrass sod shall be reasonably free from diseases, fungi, nematodes and soil-born insects, to the extent that with proper installation methods and initial maintenance new turf will not deteriorate due to such causes.

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- .9 Wire mesh: 40 mm, plastic.
- .10 Wooden pegs, 25 x 25 x 250 mm.
- .11 Water used should be potable and shall be free of impurities that would inhibit germination and growth or may be harmful to the environment.
- .12 Fertilizer: As recommended by testing agency as per topsoil sample.
- .13 Herbicide: type, rate, and method of application subject to approval by Consultant.

PART 3 EXECUTION**3.1 Laying of Sod**

- .1 Prior to sodding, the Contractor is to verify that the finished grade and depth of topsoil is satisfactory.
- .2 Fertilizer as per recommendation by testing agency as per topsoil sample. Refer to Topsoil Section [02911](#), **Subsection 3.5 Application for Fertilizer**.
- .3 Sodding during excessively wet conditions, at freezing temperatures or over frozen soil is not acceptable.
- .4 Lay sod in rows, perpendicular to slope, and with joints staggered. Butt sections closely without over-lapping or leaving gaps between sections. Cut out irregular or thin sections with sharp implements.
- .5 Where new sod abuts existing sodded areas/seeded areas, new sod must be knitted to existing with finish grade of new sod same as existing.
- .6 Provide close contact between sod and soil by light rolling. Use of heavy roller to correct irregularities in grade is not permitted.
- .7 Water sod immediately after laying to obtain moisture penetration into top 100 mm of topsoil.

3.2 Laying of Pegged Sod

- .1 Place approved mesh on top of topsoil of slopes steeper than 3:1. Secure mesh in place with wooden pegs or staples at maximum intervals of 1000 mm. Cover mesh lightly with topsoil.

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- .2 Lay sod sections perpendicular to slopes greater than 3:1 (run/rise) and secure with wooden pegs. Place pegs 3 per m², 100 mm below to edge to prevent shifting of sod and drive pegs flush with top of sod soil.

3.3 Maintenance

- .1 Maintain sodded area from the time of installation until the second cut has been completed AND until Substantial Performance of the Work.
- .2 Maintenance shall include all necessary measures to establish and maintain grass in a healthy, vigorous growing condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to the following work until Substantial Performance of the Work
 - .1 Watering: When required in sufficient quantities and at a frequency to prevent sod from drying out and to maintain topsoil under sod continuously moist to a depth of 75 to 100 mm. Water sufficiently to ensure that sod has become firmly rooted in the topsoil.
 - .2 Mowing: Regular intervals to maintain a maximum height of 50 mm. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the grass height at any one mowing. Trim and clip edges. Remove clippings.
 - .3 Fertilizing: If instructed by the Consultant, sodded areas may be fertilized based on mixtures and rates as per supplier's and manufacturer's instructions and soil test results. Postpone fertilizing until the spring following a fall installation.
 - .4 Make good any erosion that results from faulty workmanship or material at no extra cost.
 - .5 Replace any deteriorated or bare spots with new sod.

3.4 Sod Acceptance

- .1 Prior to Substantial Performance of the works, the sodded areas shall meet the following criteria:
 - .1 Sodded areas are properly established and are self-sustaining.
 - .2 Sod is free of bare and dead spots and without weeds.

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- .3 No surface soil is visible when grass has been cut to height of 40 mm.
- .4 Sodded areas have been cut minimum two (2) times prior to acceptance review.
- .2 The Contractor is responsible to arrange review of sod for acceptance review within one (1) week after second cut. Additional cuts will be required if acceptance review meeting doesn't occur in a timely matter.
- .3 Areas sodded in fall will be accepted in following spring one (1) month after start of growing season provided acceptance conditions are fulfilled.
- .4 The Owner will take over the cutting of the sod following a successful acceptance review.

3.5 Cleaning

- .1 Upon completion of installation, remove surplus materials, rubbish, tools and equipment barriers.

END OF SECTION - 02938