

## ITEM 162

### SODDING FOR EROSION CONTROL AND STABILIZATION

162.1 Description. Sodding for erosion control and for stabilization shall consist of providing and planting Bermuda grass, San Augustine grass, or other acceptable sod along or across such areas as are designated on the drawings and in accordance with the specification requirements herein outlined.

162.2 Materials. The sod shall consist of live, growing Bermuda grass, San Augustine grass, or other acceptable sod, (ninety-five percent pure), secured from sources where the soil is fertile and has been fumigated. The sod shall have a healthy virile root system of dense, thickly matted roots throughout. The sod shall be cut from the field so that there is a minimum of one-half inch of soil on the roots of the sod, and so that no roots show on the bottom of the soil. Sod shall be dense, with the grass having been mowed to 1 inch height before lifting from field. Sod shall be in a vigorous condition, dark green in color, free of disease and harmful insects. The contractor shall not use sod from areas where the grass is thinned out, nor where the grass roots have been dried out by exposure to the air and sun to such an extent as to damage its ability to grow when transplanted. The sod shall be free from obnoxious weeds or other grasses and shall not contain any matter deleterious to its growth or which might affect its subsistence or hardiness when transplanted. Unless the area has been closely pastured, it shall be closely mowed and raked to remove all weeds and long-standing stems.

Care shall be taken at all times to retain the native soil on the roots of the sod during the process of excavation, hauling and planting. Sod material shall be kept moist from the time it is dug, until planted. When so directed by the Engineer, the sod existing at the source shall be watered to the extent required, prior to excavating. Do not stack sod for more than 36 hours between the time of cutting and the time of installation. The Engineer reserves the right to reject any sod deemed unacceptable for installation.

All planting shall be done between the average date of the last freeze in the spring and six weeks prior to the average date for the first freeze in the fall, according to the U.S. Weather Bureau.

Fertilizer shall conform to the requirements of the Item 166, "Fertilizer" and shall be applied at the rate of 480-pounds per acre.

162.3 Construction Methods. Immediately after the finished grade has been approved, begin sodding operations to reduce excessive weed growth. If the sod bed is dry, immediately prior to sod installation, dampen the surface with a fine mist of water.

Grass shall be turf sod, cut into sixteen (16) inch strip widths for those areas behind a curb. All other areas can receive various cut widths and lengths.

All areas to be sodded shall be raked to true lines, free from all unsightly variations, bumps, ridges or depressions. All sticks, stones, roots or other objectionable material which might interfere with the formation of a finely pulverized seed bed, shall be removed from the soil.

Lay sod so that adjacent strips butt tightly, with no spaces between strips. Lay sod on mounds and slopes, with strips parallel to contours. Stagger joints. Sodded areas shall be flush with adjoining seeded areas. All sod shall, of course, be laid green side up. Tamp and roll the sod thoroughly to make contact with the sod bed, or as directed by the Engineer.

Peg sod on slopes three to one or steeper with pegs driven through sod into soil, until pegs are flush with the turf. Space pegs 18 inches on center. Pegs to be 1 inch square, 6 inches long or, 6 inch lengths of lath.

Commercial fertilizer as outlined in the Item 166, "Fertilizer" shall be applied to the entire sodded area at the prescribed rates, immediately following laying of the sod. Immediately after fertilizing, water the entire area to a saturated depth of 2-inches. If rain is imminent, then the application of fertilizer shall be postponed until weather conditions exist such that the potential for the runoff of fertilizer from the site is minimized.

Immediately after installation of the sod, remove sod clumps, soil, and any plant material from roadways and pavements. Edges along curbs and drives, walkways, etc., shall be carefully trimmed and maintained until accepted.

Only as approved by the Engineer, in areas where sod is dead, satisfactory growth may be accomplished with application of seeding or hydromulch seeding, in lieu of replacing the dead sod. Costs for labor, materials, tools and equipment for the application of seeding or hydromulch seeding over dead sod shall be incidental to this pay item.

162.4

Contractor's Maintenance & Guarantee Period. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor to maintain all sodded areas until satisfactory growth has occurred as determined by the Engineer and for a period of 60 days after the successful completion of all punch list items. Maintenance shall consist of watering, weeding, repairing of all erosion, and re-sodding as necessary to establish a uniform growth of the specified grass. A minimum of 95% of the area planted shall be covered with the specified grass with no bare or dead spots greater than 10 square feet.

The Contractor shall be responsible for one (1) mowing per month between the months of April to October. The Contractor shall also be responsible for one (1) mowing every six (6) weeks between the months of November to March.

In addition, the Contractor shall water all sodded areas as often as necessary to establish satisfactory growth and to maintain its growth throughout the duration of the project; including in the 60 day period described above.

Contractor shall make as many repeat plantings as necessary to achieve a minimum of 95% of the area planted covered with the specified grass with no bare or dead spots greater than 10 square feet. Such replanting is to be performed within 14 calendar days of notification by the Engineer.

162.5 Submittal Required. The contractor shall submit a statement from the supplier attesting that the sod meets the requirements stated herein.

162.6 Measurement. Work and acceptable material for Sodding for Erosion Control and Stabilization shall be measured by **linear feet** or by the **square yard**, complete in place.

162.7 Payment. Work performed and material furnished under "Measurement" shall be paid for at the unit price bid for Sodding for Erosion Control and Stabilization, which price shall be full compensation for furnishing materials, preparation of ground for planting, planting of sod, pegging of sod, raking, fertilizing, watering, sprinkling, maintenance, and for labor, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete the work. Additional payment shall not be made for those areas that are replanted.

END OF ITEM 162