

SECTION 32 92 23

SODDING FOR EROSION CONTROL (BLOCK SODDING)**PART 1 – GENERAL****1.1 DESCRIPTION**

- A. Sodding for erosion control 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.

1.2 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

- A. Work and acceptable material for block sodding will be measured by the square yard, complete and in place.
- B. Work performed and material furnished under “Measurement” will be paid for at the unit price bid for “Block Sodding”, which price shall be full compensation for furnishing materials, preparation of ground for planting, planting, raking, fertilizing, watering, sprinkling, maintenance, and for labor, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete the work.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

- A. Contractor shall submit material data on the source of the sod including the date the sod was cut.

PART 2 – PRODUCTS**2.1 MATERIALS**

- A. 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.
- B. 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.

- C. All plantings 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.
- D. Fertilizer shall conform to the requirements of the Item, “Fertilizer” and shall be applied at the rate of 480-pounds per acre.

PART 3 – EXECUTION

3.1 CONSTRUCTION METHODS

- A. 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.
- B. Grass shall be turf sod, cut into 16 inch by 24 inch strips.
- C. 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.
- D. 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.
- E. 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, “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.
- F. Immediately after installation of the sod, remove sod clumps on soil, wash off any plant materials and pavements not to have sod. Edges along curbs and drives, walkways, etc., shall be carefully trimmed and maintained until accepted.

3.2 CONTRACTOR’S MAINTENANCE & GUARANTEE PERIOD

- A. Maintenance of sodded areas shall be for 60 days after completion of the project and shall consist of watering, weeding, repair of all erosion and resodding as necessary to establish a uniform growth of the specified grass. Contractor shall guarantee growth and coverage of the sod planted under this contract to the effect that a minimum of 95% of the area planted will be covered with the specified planting after 60 days. Sod panels that are dead or dying shall be replaced.
- B. The Contractor shall be responsible for one (1) mowing every two weeks between the months of April to October. The Contractor shall also be responsible for one (1) mowing every three (3) weeks between the months of November to March. In addition, the Contractor shall water the entire sodded and hydro-mulched areas to a saturated depth of one (1) inch at least once a week between the months of April to September and a least once a month between the months of October to March.
- C. Contractor shall make a second planting to those bare areas not meeting specified planting as determined by the Engineer. Such replanting is to be performed within 90 days of initial application and upon notification by the Engineer to replant.

END OF SECTION