

Part 1 General**1.1 RELATED SECTIONS**

- .1 Section 31 23 13 - Rough Grading.

1.2 DEFINITIONS

- .1 **COMPOST:** A mixture of soil and decomposing organic matter used as a fertilizer, mulch, or soil conditioner. Compost is processed organic matter containing 40% or more organic matter as determined by the Walkley-Black or LOI test. Product must be sufficiently decomposed (i.e. stable) so that any further decomposition does not adversely affect plant growth and contain no toxic or growth inhibiting contaminants. Composed bio-solids must meet the requirements of the Guidelines for Compost Quality, Category (A) (B) produced by the Canadian Council of the Ministers of the Environment (CCME), January 1996.

1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- .1 Test Reports: certified test reports showing compliance with specified performance characteristics and physical properties.
- .2 Certificates: product certificates signed by manufacturer certifying materials comply with specified performance characteristics and criteria and physical requirements.
- .3 Pre-Installation Meetings: conduct pre-installation meeting to verify project requirements, installation instructions and warranty requirements.

Part 2 Products**2.1 TOPSOIL**

- .1 Topsoil for sod or seeded areas: mixture of particulates, micro organisms and organic matter which provides suitable medium for supporting intended plant growth.
 - .1 Soil texture based on The Canadian System of Soil Classification, to consist of 20 to 70 % sand, minimum 7 % clay, and contain 2 to 10 % organic matter by weight.
 - .2 Contain no toxic elements or growth inhibiting materials.
 - .3 Finished surface free from:
 - .1 Debris and stones over 50 mm diameter.
 - .2 Course vegetative material, 10 mm diameter and 100 mm length, occupying more than 2% of soil volume.
 - .4 Consistence: friable when moist.

2.2 SOIL AMENDMENTS

- .1 Fertilizer:
 - .1 Fertility: major soil nutrients present in following amounts:
 - .2 Nitrogen (N): 20 to 40 micrograms of available N per gram of topsoil.

- .3 Phosphorus (P): 40 to 50 micrograms of phosphate per gram of topsoil.
- .4 Potassium (K): 75 to 110 micrograms of potassium per gram of topsoil.
- .5 Calcium, magnesium, sulfur and micro-nutrients present in balanced ratios to support germination and/or establishment of intended vegetation.
- .6 Ph value: 6.5 to 8.0.
- .2 Peatmoss:
 - .1 Derived from partially decomposed species of Sphagnum Mosses.
 - .2 Elastic and homogeneous, brown in colour.
 - .3 Free of wood and deleterious material which could prohibit growth.
 - .4 Shredded particle minimum size: 5 mm.
- .3 Sand: washed coarse silica sand, medium to coarse textured.
- .4 Organic matter: compost Category B, unprocessed organic matter, such as rotted manure, hay, straw, bark residue or sawdust, meeting the organic matter, stability and contaminant requirements.
- .5 Use composts meeting Category B requirements for land fill reclamation and large scale industrial applications.
- .6 Limestone:
 - .1 Ground agricultural limestone.
 - .2 Gradation requirements: percentage passing by weight, 90% passing 1.0 mm sieve, 50% passing 0.125 mm sieve.
- .7 Fertilizer: industry accepted standard medium containing nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium and other micro-nutrients suitable to specific plant species or application or defined by soil test.

2.3 SOURCE QUALITY CONTROL

- .1 Advise Departmental Representative of sources of topsoil to be utilized with sufficient lead time for testing.
- .2 Contractor is responsible for amendments to supply topsoil as specified.
- .3 Soil testing by recognized testing facility for PH, P and K, and organic matter.
- .4 Testing of topsoil will be carried out by testing laboratory designated by Departmental Representative. Soil sampling, testing and analysis to be in accordance with Provincial standards.

Part 3 Execution

3.1 STRIPPING OF TOPSOIL

- .1 Commence topsoil stripping of areas as directed by Departmental Representative after area has been cleared of grasses and removed from site.
- .2 Strip topsoil to depths as directed by Departmental Representative. Avoid mixing topsoil with subsoil where textural quality will be moved outside acceptable range of intended application.

- .3 Stockpile in locations as directed by Departmental Representative. Stockpile height not to exceed 2 m.
- .4 Disposal of unused topsoil is to be in an environmentally responsible manner but not used as landfill.
- .5 Protect stockpiles from contamination and compaction.

3.2 PREPARATION OF EXISTING GRADE

- .1 Verify that grades are correct. If discrepancies occur, notify Departmental Representative and do not commence work until instructed by Departmental Representative.
- .2 Grade soil, eliminating uneven areas and low spots, ensuring positive drainage.
- .3 Remove debris, roots, branches, stones in excess of 50 mm diameter and other deleterious materials. Remove soil contaminated with calcium chloride, toxic materials and petroleum products. Remove debris which protrudes more than 75 mm above surface. Dispose of removed material off site.
- .4 Cultivate entire area which is to receive topsoil to minimum depth of 100 mm. Cross cultivate those areas where equipment used for hauling and spreading has compacted soil.

3.3 PLACING AND SPREADING OF TOPSOIL/PLANTING SOIL

- .1 Place topsoil after Departmental Representative has accepted subgrade.
- .2 Spread topsoil in uniform layers not exceeding 150 mm.
- .3 For sodded areas keep topsoil 15 mm below finished grade.
- .4 Spread topsoil as indicated to following minimum depths after settlement.
 - .1 100 mm for seeded areas.
 - .2 100 mm for sodded areas.
- .5 Manually spread topsoil/planting soil around trees, shrubs and obstacles.

3.4 FINISH GRADING

- .1 Grade to eliminate rough spots and low areas and ensure positive drainage. Prepare loose friable bed by means of cultivation and subsequent raking.
- .2 Consolidate topsoil to required bulk density using equipment approved by Departmental Representative. Leave surfaces smooth, uniform and firm against deep footprinting.

3.5 ACCEPTANCE

- .1 Departmental Representative will inspect and test topsoil in place and determine acceptance of material, depth of topsoil and finish grading.

3.6 SURPLUS MATERIAL

- .1 Dispose of materials except topsoil not required where directed by Departmental Representative.

3.7 CLEANING

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

END OF SECTION