

PART 1 **GENERAL**

1.1 **RELATED REQUIREMENTS**

- .1 Section 31 23 33.01 – Excavating, Trenching and Backfilling
- .2 Section 31 24 13 – Roadway Embankments

1.2 **REFERENCES**

- .1 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
 - .1 The Canadian System of Soil Classification, Third Edition, 1998.
- .2 Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
 - .1 PN1340-2005, Guidelines for Compost Quality.

1.3 **DEFINITIONS**

- .1 Compost:
 - .1 Mixture of soil and decomposing organic matter used as fertilizer, mulch, or soil conditioner.
 - .2 Compost is processed organic matter containing 40% or more organic matter as determined by Walkley-Black or Loss On Ignition (LOI) test.
 - .3 Product must be sufficiently decomposed (i.e. stable) so that any further decomposition does not adversely affect plant growth (C:N ratio below (25) (50)), and contain no toxic or growth inhibiting contaminants.

1.4 **ACTION AND INFORMATIONAL SUBMITTALS**

- .1 Provide submittals in accordance with Section 01 33 00 - Submittal Procedures.

1.5 **WASTE MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSAL**

- .1 Separate waste materials for reuse and recycling in accordance with Section 01 74 19 - Construction/Demolition Waste Management and Disposal.
- .2 Do not dispose of unused soil amendments into sewer systems, into lakes, streams, onto ground or in locations where it will pose health or environmental hazard.

PART 2 **PRODUCTS**

2.1 **TOPSOIL**

- .1 Topsoil for 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 course textured.
- .4 Organic matter: compost Category A, B in accordance with CCME PN1340, 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 and manufactured 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.
 - .1 Soil sampling, testing and analysis to be in accordance with Provincial standards.

PART 3 **EXECUTION**

3.1 **TEMPORARY EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL**

- .1 Provide temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures to prevent soil erosion and discharge of soil-bearing water runoff or airborne dust to adjacent properties and walkways, according to requirements of authorities having jurisdiction.
- .2 Inspect, repair, and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures during construction until permanent vegetation has been established.
- .3 Remove erosion and sedimentation controls and restore and stabilize areas disturbed during removal.

3.2 **STRIPPING OF TOPSOIL**

- .1 Begin topsoil stripping of areas as indicated after area has been cleared of brush weeds and grasses and removed from site.
- .2 Strip topsoil to depths as indicated.
 - .1 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.
 - .1 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.

3.3 **PREPARATION OF EXISTING GRADE**

- .1 Verify that grades are correct.
 - .1 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.
 - .1 Remove soil contaminated with calcium chloride, toxic materials and petroleum products.
 - .2 Remove debris which protrudes more than 75 mm above surface.
 - .3 Dispose of removed material off site.

3.4 **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 to following minimum depths after settlement.
 - .1 150 mm for seeded areas.

- .2 135 mm for sodded areas.
- .3 300 mm for flower beds.
- .4 500 mm for shrub beds.
- .5 Manually spread topsoil/planting soil around trees, shrubs and obstacles.

3.5 SOIL AMENDMENTS

- .1 For turf: apply and thoroughly mix soil amendments into top 50 mm of existing soil.

3.6 FINISH GRADING

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

3.7 ACCEPTANCE

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

3.8 SURPLUS MATERIAL

- .1 Dispose of materials except topsoil not required off site.

3.9 CLEANING

- .1 Proceed in accordance with Section 01 74 00 - Cleaning.
- .2 Upon completion of installation, remove surplus materials, rubbish, tools and equipment barriers.

END OF SECTION