

SECTION 02935

SODDING

PART 1 GENERAL

1.01 SECTION INCLUDES

- A. Restoration of existing lawn areas disturbed by construction shall be by installation of new sod.
- B. Sod is defined as blocks, squares, strips of turf grass, and adhering soil used for vegetative planting. To be placed edge to edge for complete coverage.
- C. Lawn is defined as ground covered with fine textured grass kept neatly mowed.

1.02 UNIT PRICES

- A. No separate payment will be made for work performed under this section unless unit cost is included in the Bid Proposal. Include the cost of such work for restoration of the existing sod or lawn areas in unit cost for utility and paving items in the Bid Proposal.

1.03 SUBMITTALS

- A. Submittals shall conform to the requirements of all provisions and sections of these specifications.

1.04 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Perform sodding only when weather and soil conditions are deemed by Project Owner's Representative to be suitable for proper placement.
- B. Water and fertilize new sod.
- C. Guarantee sod to be growing 30 days after completion.
- D. Maintenance Period:
 - 1. Begin maintenance immediately after each section of grass sod is installed and continue for a 30-day period from date of substantial completion.
 - 2. Resod unacceptable areas.

- 3. Water, fertilize, control disease and insect pests, mow, edge, replace unacceptable materials, and perform other procedures consistent with good horticultural practice to ensure normal, vigorous and healthy growth. All disease control shall be installed within guidelines set forth by the Structural Pest Control Board of the State of Texas.
- E. Notify Owner's Representative 10 days before end of maintenance period for inspection.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.01 SOD

- A. Species: Bermuda (Cynodon Dactylon), Buffalo (Buchloe Dactyloides), or St. Augustine.
- B. Contents: 95 percent permanent grass suitable to climate in which it is to be placed; not more than 5 percent weeds and undesirable grasses; good texture, free from obnoxious grasses, roots, stones and foreign materials. Block sod is usually a 16" x 16" square.
- C. Size: 16 inch wide strips, uniformly 2 inches thick with clean-cut edges.
- D. Sod is to be supplied and maintained in a healthy condition as evidenced by the grass being a normal green color.

2.02 FERTILIZER

- A. Available nutrient percentage by weight: 12 percent nitrogen, 4 percent phosphoric acid, and 8 percent potash; or 15 percent nitrogen, 5 percent phosphoric acid, and 10 percent potash.

2.03 WEED AND INSECT TREATMENT

- A. Provide acceptable treatment to protect sod from weed and insect infestation. Submit treatment method to the Owner's Representative for approval. All insect and disease control shall be installed within guidelines set forth by the Structural Pest Control Board of the State of Texas.

2.04 WATER

- A. Potable, available on-site through Contractor's water trucks. Do not use private resident's water.

2.05 BANK SAND

- A. Free of clay lumps, roots, grass, salt or other foreign material.

PART 3 EXECUTION

3.01 PREPARATION

- A. Verify that top soil placement and compaction has been satisfactorily completed. Verify that soil is within allowable range of moisture content.
- B. Topsoil shall be free of weeds and foreign material immediately before sodding.
- C. Do not start work until conditions are satisfactory. Do not start work during inclement or impending inclement weather.
- D. Rake areas to be sodded smooth, free from unsightly variations, bumps, ridges or depressions.
- E. Spread 2-inch layer of bank sand over areas to be sodded prior to planting of sod.
- F. Apply fertilizer at a rate of 25 lbs/1000 SF. Apply after raking soil surface and not more than 48 hours prior to laying sod. Mix thoroughly into upper 2 inches of soil. Lightly water to aid in dissipation of fertilizer.

3.02 APPLICATION

- A. Lay sod with closely fitted joints leaving no voids and with ends of sod strips staggered. Sod shall be laid within 24 hours of harvesting.
- B. After sod is laid, irrigate thoroughly to secure 6-inch minimum penetration into soil below sod.
- C. Tamp and roll sod with approved equipment to eliminate minor irregularities and to form close contact with soil bed immediately after planting and watering. Submit type of tamping and rolling equipment to be used to the Owner's Representative for approval, prior to construction.

3.03 MAINTENANCE

- A. Watering:
 - 1. Water lawn areas once a day with minimum 1/2 inch water for the first 3 weeks after area is sodded.
 - 2. After 3-week period, water twice a week with 3/4 inch of water each time unless comparable amount has been provided by rain.

3. Make weekly inspections to determine moisture content of soil unless soil is in frozen condition.
4. Water in the morning to enable soil to absorb maximum amount of water with minimum evaporation.

B. Mowing:

1. Mow sod at intervals which will keep grass height from exceeding 3-1/2 inches.
2. Set mower blades at 2-1/2 inches.
3. Not remove more than one-half of grass leaf surface.
4. Sodded areas requiring mowing within 1 month after installation shall be mowed with a light-weight rotary type mower. The sod shall be mowed only when dry and not in a saturated or soft condition.
5. Remove grass clippings during or immediately after mowing.

C. Fertilizer and Pest Control:

1. Evenly spread fertilizer composite at a rate of 40 pounds per 5,000 square feet or as recommended by manufacturer. Fertilizer shall not be placed until 2 weeks after placement of sod.
2. Restore bare or thin areas by topdressing with a mix of 50 percent sharp sand and 50 percent sphagnum peat moss.
3. Apply mixture 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick.
4. Treat areas of heavy weed and insect infestation as recommended by treatment manufacturer.

3.04 CLEANUP

- A. During course of planting, remove excess and waste materials; keep lawn areas clean and take precautions to avoid damage to existing structures, plants, grass and streets.
- B. Remove barriers, signs and all other Contractor material and equipment from project site at termination of establishment period.

END OF SECTION