

SECTION 9.53 SODDING

9.53.01--Description: Work under this item shall consist of furnishing and placing of live sod and also the furnishing and preparing a sodbed composed of 100 mm, after tamping, of approved topsoil in the areas designated on the plans or where directed by the Engineer and in conformance with these specifications.

9.53.02--Materials: The material for this work shall conform to the requirements of Article M.13.01 for Topsoil, Article M.13.02 for Agricultural Ground Dolomitic Limestone, Article M.13.03 for Fertilizer, and Article M.13.08 for Sod. Stakes for pegging sod shall be of wood, approximately 25 mm X 50 mm and of sufficient length to penetrate the sod, the topsoil and to a minimum depth of 50 mm of subsoil.

9.53.03--Construction Methods:

1--Season: The work may be performed at any season of the year unless otherwise specified. The Contractor shall notify the Engineer at least 48 hours in advance of the time he intends to begin sodding and shall not proceed with such work until permission to do so has been granted. No frozen sod shall be placed. No sodding shall be done on frozen earth. When sodding is to be accomplished on the same general area where seeding is to be done under the same contract, the sodding work shall be carried out before the seed is sown.

2--Procuring Sod: Care shall be exercised at all times to retain the native soil on the roots of the sod during the process of transplanting. Dumping from vehicles will not be permitted. The sod shall be planted within twenty-four hours from the time it is harvested unless it is tightly rolled or stored roots-to-roots in a satisfactory manner. All sod in stacks shall be kept moist and shall be protected from exposure to the sun and from freezing. No storage longer than five days will be permitted. Sod which becomes dried out or does not meet the specifications will be rejected.

3--Ground Preparation: There shall be a minimum of 100 mm, after tamping, of topsoil under all sod unless otherwise specified. Excavations or trenches shall be made to a sufficient depth below the finished grade of the sod to accommodate the depth of topsoil as specified and the thickness of sod as specified. Fertilizer shall be applied at a rate to provide 110 kg/ha of nitrogen unless fertilizer has been applied under another item in this contract to the topsoil in the sod bed. Lime, although not required in sodbed preparation, will be permitted in the sodbed if applied in a previous operation. Fertilizer applied under this item shall be incorporated with the topsoil to a depth of at least 50 mm before the sod is laid, unless otherwise specified or approved. Incorporation shall be accomplished by disking, harrowing, drilling, raking or other approved means.

4--Planting Sod: The soil on which the sod is laid shall be reasonably moist and shall be watered, if so directed. The sod shall be laid smoothly, edge to edge, and all openings shall be plugged with sod. In drainage-ways and where continuous or solidsodding is called for on the plans, the sod shall be laid with their longest dimensions parallel to the contours. Such sodding shall be begun at the base of slopes or grades and the sodding progress in continuous parallel rows working upward. Vertical joints between such sod shall be staggered. All sod shall be laid to the grades specified and the grades formed with special care at the junction of drainage-ways. Immediately after the sod is laid, it shall be pressed firmly into contact with the sodbed by tamping, rolling, or by other approved methods so as to eliminate all air pockets, provide true and even surfaces, insure knitting and protect all exposed sod edges but without displacement of the sod or deformation of the surface of the sodded areas and watered at the rate of 20 L/m² of sodded area unless otherwise directed.

5--Pegging: Sod shall be held in place by stakes in all drainage-ways, on all slopes steeper than 1:4 and elsewhere where specified or as directed. Pegging shall be done immediately after tamping. At least one stake shall be driven through each sod to be staked, and the stakes shall be not more than 600 mm apart. Stakes shall have their flat sides against the slope and be driven flush.

6--Finishing: Excess sod or excess soil resulting from excavations or trenching shall be disposed of as approved. Excess soil shall not be left to form a ridge adjacent to the sodded area or sodded strips. No payment will be made for rejected or excess sod which is not laid.

7--Care During Construction: The Contractor shall care for the sodded areas until all work on the entire contract has been completed and accepted. Such care shall consist of providing protection against traffic by approved warning signs or barricades, and the mowing of grass to the height of 50 mm when the growth attains a maximum height of 100 mm.

Sod shall also be watered if so required by the Engineer. When watered, sufficient water shall be applied to wet the sod at least 50 mm deep in the sodbed. Watering shall be done in a manner which will not cause erosion nor other damage to the finished surfaces. Any surfaces which become gullied or otherwise damaged shall be repaired to re-establish the grade and conditions of the soil prior to sodding and shall then be refertilized and resodded as specified under this item.

9.53.04--Method of Measurement: This work will be measured for payment by the number of square meters of surface area acceptably sodded.

9.53.05--Basis of Payment: This work will be paid for at the contract unit price per square meter for "Sodding," which payment shall constitute full compensation for furnishing all labor, materials, including topsoil placed under the sod, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete and care for the work as specified, including water and its application.

Pay Item
Sodding

Pay Unit
M²