

# PART X – TURFING

## ITEM T-901 SEEDING

### DESCRIPTION

**901-1.1** This item shall consist of soil preparation, seeding [ ] the areas shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer in accordance with these specifications.

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**The Engineer shall specify fertilizing or liming or both as needed for a specific project.**

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### MATERIALS

**901-2.1 SEED** The species and application rates of grass, legume, and cover-crop seed furnished shall be those stipulated herein. Seed shall conform to the requirements of Fed. Spec. *A-A-2671*.

Seed shall be furnished separately or in mixtures in standard containers with the seed name, lot number, net weight, percentages of purity and of germination and hard seed, and percentage of maximum weed seed content clearly marked for each kind of seed. The Contractor shall furnish the Engineer duplicate signed copies of a statement by the vendor certifying that each lot of seed has been tested by a recognized laboratory for seed testing within 6 months of date of delivery. This statement shall include: name and address of laboratory, date of test, lot number for each kind of seed, and the results of tests as to name, percentages of purity and of germination, and percentage of weed content for each kind of seed furnished, and, in case of a mixture, the proportions of each kind of seed.

Seeds shall be applied as follows:

Seed	Minimum Seed Purity (Percent)	Minimum Germination (Percent)	Rate of Application lb./acre	(or lb./1,000 S.F.)
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Seeding shall be performed during the period between [ ] and [ ] inclusive, unless otherwise approved by the Engineer.

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**Seeding dates, species and seeding rates must be specified that are compatible with local climate and soil conditions. Due consideration must be given to longevity of plants, resistance to traffic and erosion, and attraction of birds or large animals. More than one seeding season may be specified, if appropriate. Local offices of the USDA Soil Conservation Service and the State University Agricultural Extension Service (County Agent or equivalent) shall be consulted for assistance and recommendations. These agencies shall also be consulted for liming and fertilizer recommendations.**

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**901-2.2 LIME.** Lime shall be ground limestone containing not less than 85% of total carbonates, and shall be ground to such fineness that 90% will pass through a No. 20 mesh sieve and 50% will pass through a No. 100 mesh sieve. Coarser material will be acceptable, providing the rates of application are increased to provide not less than the minimum quantities and depth specified in the special provisions on the basis of the two sieve requirements above. Dolomitic lime or a high magnesium lime shall contain at least 10% of magnesium oxide. Lime shall be applied at the rate of [ ]. All liming materials shall conform to the requirements of ASTM C 602.

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**The Engineer shall specify the application rate in pounds per acre.**

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**901-2.3 FERTILIZER.** Fertilizer shall be standard commercial fertilizers supplied separately or in mixtures containing the percentages of total nitrogen, available phosphoric acid, and water-soluble potash. They shall be applied at the rate and to the depth specified herein, and shall meet the requirements of Fed. Spec. *A-A-1909* and applicable state laws. They shall be furnished in standard containers with name, weight, and guaranteed analysis of contents clearly marked thereon. No cyanamide compounds or hydrated lime shall be permitted in mixed fertilizers.

The fertilizers may be supplied in one of the following forms:

- a. A dry, free-flowing fertilizer suitable for application by a common fertilizer spreader;
- b. A finely-ground fertilizer soluble in water, suitable for application by power sprayers; or
- c. A granular or pellet form suitable for application by blower equipment.

Fertilizers shall be [ ] commercial fertilizer and shall be spread at the rate of [ ].

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**The Engineer shall specify the analysis and the application rate in pounds per acre. Paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 shall be deleted if not applicable.**

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**901-2.4 SOIL FOR REPAIRS.** The soil for fill and topsoiling of areas to be repaired shall be at least of equal quality to that which exists in areas adjacent to the area to be repaired. The soil shall be relatively free from large stones, roots, stumps, or other materials that will interfere with subsequent sowing of seed, compacting, and establishing turf, and shall be approved by the Engineer before being placed.

## CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**901-3.1 ADVANCE PREPARATION AND CLEANUP.** After grading of areas has been completed and before applying fertilizer and ground limestone, areas to be seeded shall be raked or otherwise cleared of stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, sticks, stumps, and other debris which might interfere with sowing of seed, growth of grasses, or subsequent maintenance of grass-covered areas. If any damage by erosion or other causes has occurred after the completion of grading and before beginning the application of fertilizer and ground limestone, the Contractor shall repair such damage. This may include filling gullies, smoothing irregularities, and repairing other incidental damage.

An area to be seeded shall be considered a satisfactory seedbed without additional treatment if it has recently been thoroughly loosened and worked to a depth of not less than 5 inches (125 mm) as a result of grading operations and, if immediately prior to seeding, the top 3 inches (75 mm) of soil is loose, friable, reasonably free from large clods, rocks, large roots, or other undesirable matter, and if shaped to the required grade.

However, when the area to be seeded is sparsely sodded, weedy, barren and unworked, or packed and hard, any grass and weeds shall first be cut or otherwise satisfactorily disposed of, and the soil then scarified or otherwise loosened to a depth not less than 5 inches (125 mm). Clods shall be broken and the top 3 inches (75 mm) of soil shall be worked into a satisfactory seedbed by discing, or by use of cultipackers, rollers, drags, harrows, or other appropriate means.

**901-3.2 DRY APPLICATION METHOD.**

**a. Liming.** Lime shall be applied separately and prior to the application of any fertilizer or seed and only on seedbeds which have previously been prepared as described above. The lime shall then be worked into the top 3 inches (75 mm) of soil after which the seedbed shall again be properly graded and dressed to a smooth finish.

**b. Fertilizing.** Following advance preparations and cleanup fertilizer shall be uniformly spread at the rate which will provide not less than the minimum quantity stated in paragraph 901-2.3.

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**Delete paragraphs a. and b. if not applicable.**

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**c. Seeding.** Grass seed shall be sown at the rate specified in paragraph 901-2.1 immediately after fertilizing, and the fertilizer and seed shall be raked within the depth range stated in the special provisions. Seeds of legumes, either alone or in mixtures, shall be inoculated before mixing or sowing, in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the inoculant. When seeding is required at other than the seasons shown on the plans or in the special provisions, a cover crop shall be sown by the same methods required for grass and legume seeding.

**d. Rolling.** After the seed has been properly covered, the seedbed shall be immediately compacted by means of an approved lawnroller, weighing 40 to 65 pounds per foot (60 to 97 kg per meter) of width for clay soil (or any soil having a tendency to pack), and weighing 150 to 200 pounds per foot (223 to 298 kg per meter) of width for sandy or light soils.

**901-3.3 WET APPLICATION METHOD.**

**a. General.** The Contractor may elect to apply seed and fertilizer (and lime, if required) by spraying them on the previously prepared seedbed in the form of an aqueous mixture and by using the methods and equipment described herein. The rates of application shall be as specified in the special provisions.

**b. Spraying Equipment.** The spraying equipment shall have a container or water tank equipped with a liquid level gauge calibrated to read in increments not larger than 50 gallons (190 liters) over the entire range of the tank capacity, mounted so as to be visible to the nozzle operator. The container or tank shall also be equipped with a mechanical power-driven agitator capable of keeping all the solids in the mixture in complete suspension at all times until used.

The unit shall also be equipped with a pressure pump capable of delivering 100 gallons (380 liters) per minute at a pressure of 100 pounds per square inch (690 kPa). The pump shall be mounted in a line which will recirculate the mixture through the tank whenever it is not being sprayed from the nozzle. All pump passages and pipe lines shall be capable of providing clearance for 5/8 inch (15 mm) solids. The power unit for the pump and agitator shall have

controls mounted so as to be accessible to the nozzle operator. There shall be an indicating pressure gauge connected and mounted immediately at the back of the nozzle.

The nozzle pipe shall be mounted on an elevated supporting stand in such a manner that it can be rotated through 360 degrees horizontally and inclined vertically from at least 20 degrees below to at least 60 degrees above the horizontal. There shall be a quick-acting, three-way control valve connecting the recirculating line to the nozzle pipe and mounted so that the nozzle operator can control and regulate the amount of flow of mixture delivered to the nozzle. At least three different types of nozzles shall be supplied so that mixtures may be properly sprayed over distance varying from 20 to 100 feet (6 to 30 m). One shall be a close-range ribbon nozzle, one a medium-range ribbon nozzle, and one a long-range jet nozzle. For case of removal and cleaning, all nozzles shall be connected to the nozzle pipe by means of quick-release couplings.

In order to reach areas inaccessible to the regular equipment, an extension hose at least 50 feet (15 m) in length shall be provided to which the nozzles may be connected.

**c. Mixtures.** Lime, if required, shall be applied separately, in the quantity specified, prior to the fertilizing and seeding operations. Not more than 220 pounds (100 kg) of lime shall be added to and mixed with each 100 gallons (380 liters) of water. Seed and fertilizer shall be mixed together in the relative proportions specified, but not more than a total of 220 pounds (100 kg) of these combined solids shall be added to and mixed with each 100 gallons (380 liters) of water.

All water used shall be obtained from fresh water sources and shall be free from injurious chemicals and other toxic substances harmful to plant life. Brackish water shall not be used at any time. The Contractor shall identify to the Engineer all sources of water at least 2 weeks prior to use. The Engineer may take samples of the water at the source or from the tank at any time and have a laboratory test the samples for chemical and saline content. The Contractor shall not use any water from any source which is disapproved by the Engineer following such tests.

All mixtures shall be constantly agitated from the time they are mixed until they are finally applied to the seedbed. All such mixtures shall be used within 2 hours from the time they were mixed or they shall be wasted and disposed of at locations acceptable to the Engineer.

**d. Spraying.** Lime, if required, shall be sprayed only upon previously prepared seedbeds. After the applied lime mixture has dried, the lime shall be worked into the top 3 inches (8 cm), after which the seedbed shall again be properly graded and dressed to a smooth finish.

Mixtures of seed and fertilizer shall only be sprayed upon previously prepared seedbeds on which the lime, if required, shall already have been worked in. The mixtures shall be applied by means of a high-pressure spray which shall always be directed upward into the air so that the mixtures will fall to the ground like rain in a uniform spray. Nozzles or sprays shall never be directed toward the ground in such a manner as might produce erosion or runoff.

Particular care shall be exercised to insure that the application is made uniformly and at the prescribed rate and to guard against misses and overlapped areas. Proper predetermined quantities of the mixture in accordance with specifications shall be used to cover specified sections of known area. Checks on the rate and uniformity of application may be made by observing the degree of wetting of the ground or by distributing test sheets of paper or pans over the area at intervals and observing the quantity of material deposited thereon.

On surfaces which are to be mulched as indicated by the plans or designated by the Engineer, seed and fertilizer applied by the spray method need not be raked into the soil or rolled. However, on surfaces on which mulch is not to be used, the raking and rolling operations will be required after the soil has dried.

**901-34 MAINTENANCE OF SEEDED AREAS.** The Contractor shall protect seeded areas against traffic or other use by warning signs or barricades, as approved by the Engineer. Surfaces gullied or otherwise damaged following seeding shall be repaired by regrading and reseeding as directed. The Contractor shall mow, water as directed, and otherwise maintain seeded areas in a satisfactory condition until final inspection and acceptance of the work.

When either the dry or wet application method outlined above is used for work done out of season, it will be required that the Contractor establish a good stand of grass of uniform color and density to the satisfaction of the Engineer. If at the time when the contract has been otherwise completed it is not possible to make an adequate determination of the color, density, and uniformity of such stand of grass, payment for the unaccepted portions of the areas seeded out of season will be withheld until such time as these requirements have been met.

**METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

**901-4.1** The quantity of seeding to be paid for shall be the number of units [1,000 square feet (square meters)][acres (square meters)] measured on the ground surface, completed and accepted.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**901-5.1** Payment shall be made at the contract unit price per [1,000 square feet (square meters)][acre (square meters)] or fraction thereof, which price and payment shall be full compensation for furnishing and placing all material and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the work prescribed in this item.

Payment will be made under:

Item 901-5.1                      Seeding--per [1,000 square feet (square meters)][acre (square meters)]

**MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS**

<i>ASTM C 602</i>	<i>Agricultural Liming Materials</i>
ASTM D 977	Emulsified Asphalt
Fed. Spec. <i>A-A-1909</i>	Fertilizer
<i>Fed. Spec. A-A-2671</i>	<i>Seeds, Agriculture</i>

**END OF ITEM T-901**

# ITEM T-903 SPRIGGING

## DESCRIPTION

**903-1.1** This item shall consist of planting sprigs of living grass plants at the locations shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer in accordance with these specifications.

## MATERIALS

**903-2.1 SPRIGS.** Sprigs shall be healthy living stems (stolons or rhizomes), of the grass species stated in the special provisions, harvested without adhering soil and obtained from sources where the sod is heavy and thickly matted. The presence of weeds or other material which might be detrimental to the proposed planting will be cause for rejection of sprigs.

**903-2.2 LIME.** Lime shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.2.

**903-2.3 FERTILIZER.** Fertilizer shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.3.

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**Paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 shall be deleted if not applicable.**

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**903-2.4 WATER.** All water used shall be sufficiently free from oil, acid, alkali, salt, or other harmful materials that would inhibit the growth of grass. Brackish water shall not be used at any time. It shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer prior to use.

**903-2.5 SOIL FOR REPAIRS.** The soil for fill, and topsoiling of areas to be repaired, shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.4.

## CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**903-3.1 GENERAL.** Areas to be sprigged and the location of sprigging material, if available on the site, shall be shown on the plans. Areas requiring special ground surface preparation such as tilling, and those in a satisfactory condition to remain undisturbed, shall also be shown on the plans.

Suitable equipment necessary for proper preparation of the ground surface and for the handling and placing of all required materials shall be on hand, in good condition, and shall be approved by the Engineer before the various operations are started. The Contractor shall demonstrate to the Engineer, before starting the various operations, that the planting and application of required materials will be made at the specified rates.

When weather conditions are such that unsatisfactory results may occur, the work shall be stopped until the desired results can be obtained.

**903-3.2 ADVANCE PREPARATION AND CLEANUP.** After grading of areas has been completed and before applying fertilizer and limestone, areas to be sprigged shall be raked or otherwise cleared of stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, sticks, stumps, and other debris which might interfere with sprigging, growth of grasses, or subsequent maintenance of grass-covered areas. If any damage by erosion or other causes has occurred

after grading of areas and before beginning the application of fertilizer and ground limestone, the Contractor shall repair such damage. This may include filling gullies, smoothing irregularities, and repairing other incidental damage.

**903-3.3 APPLYING FERTILIZER AND GROUND LIMESTONE.** Following advance preparation and cleanup, fertilizer shall be uniformly spread at a rate which will provide not less than the minimum quantity of each fertilizer ingredient as stated in the special provisions. If use of ground limestone is required, it shall then be spread at a rate which will provide not less than the minimum quantity stated in the special provisions. These materials shall be incorporated into the soil to a depth of not less than 2 inches (50 mm) by discing, raking, or other methods acceptable to the Engineer. Any stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, large clods, roots, and other litter brought to the surface by this operation shall be removed.

In steep slopes where fertilizer and ground limestone cannot be incorporated effectively by mechanical equipment, they may be applied with power sprayers, blower equipment, or other approved method, and need not be incorporated into the soil.

**903-3.4 HARVESTING SPRIGS.** The sprigs obtained from sources off the site shall be from suitable areas as close as practical to the planting site. Regardless of the source, sprigging material which contains grass and weeds taller than 6 inches (150 mm) shall be mowed to a height of 3 inches (75 mm), and the clippings raked and removed before harvesting begins. Harvesting may be performed by any method acceptable to the Engineer, including crisscross cultivation, shallow plowing, or other acceptable methods to thoroughly loosen the sprigs from the soil and to bring them to the surface. After loosening the sprigs from the soil, they shall be gathered in small piles or windrows, watered, and kept moist until planted.

Not more than 24 hours shall elapse between harvesting and planting sprigs, except that, when weather or other uncontrollable conditions interrupt the work, a time extension may be granted, provided the sprigs are still moist and viable. Sprigs that have heated in stockpiles, have become frozen, permitted to dry out, or otherwise seriously damaged during harvesting or delivery shall be rejected and shall be disposed of as directed by the Engineer.

**903-3.5 PLANTING SPRIGS.** Sprigging shall be done only within the periods stipulated in the special provisions. Sprigging shall not be done during windy weather, or when the ground is dry, excessively wet, frozen, or otherwise untillable. If the soil is not moist when the sprigs are being set, water shall be applied until the soil is moist and in a workable condition. One or more of the following methods shall be used, whichever is shown on the plans or stated in the special provisions:

**a. Broadcast Sprigging.** Sprigs shall be broadcast by hand or by suitable equipment in a uniform layer over the prepared surface with spacing between sprigs not to exceed 6 inches (150 mm). The sprigs shall then be forced into the soil to a depth of 2 to 4 inches (50 to 100 mm) with a straight spade or similar tool, or with a disc harrow or other equipment set to cover the sprigs to the required depth.

**b. Row Sprigging.** Furrows shall be opened along the approximate contour of slopes at the spacing and depth stated in the special provisions. Sprigs shall be placed without delay in a continuous row in the open furrow with successive sprigs touching, and they shall be covered immediately.

**c. Spot Sprigging.** Spot sprigging shall be performed as specified under row sprigging, except that groups of 4 sprigs or more shall be spaced 18 inches (45 cm) apart in the rows.

**903-3.6 MULCHING AND COMPACTING.** After planting of sprigs has been completed and prior to compacting, the surface shall be cleared of stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, large clods, roots, and other litter brought to the surface during sprigging.

If mulching of sprigged areas is shown on the plans or stated in the special provisions, the sprigged areas shall be covered with mulch in accordance with the requirements of Item T-908 within 24 hours from the time sprigging has been completed, weather and soil conditions permitting.

If mulching is not shown on the plans nor stated in the special provisions, the sprigged area shall be compacted within 24 hours from the time sprigging has been completed, weather and soil conditions permitting, by cultipackers, rollers, or other satisfactory equipment operated at right angles to the slope. Compaction shall not be done when the soil is in such condition that it is picked up by the equipment.

**903-3.7 ESTABLISHING TURF.** The Contractor shall be responsible for the proper care of the sprigged areas during the period when the plants are becoming established and he shall protect the sprigged areas against traffic by warning signs or barricades approved by the Engineer. Surfaces gullied or otherwise damaged following sprigging shall be repaired by regrading and resprigging as directed. The Contractor shall mow, water as directed, and otherwise maintain sprigged areas in a satisfactory condition until final inspection and acceptance of the work.

**METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

**903-4.1** Sprigging shall be measured by the number of units of 1,000 square feet (100 square meters), measured on the ground surface, completed and accepted.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**903-5.1** Payment will be made at the contract unit price per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters) or fraction thereof. This price shall be full compensation for furnishing and placing all material including any required mulching of sprigged areas, and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the work prescribed in this item.

Payment will be made under:

Item 903-5.1      Sprigging--per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters)

**END OF ITEM T-903**

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# ITEM T-904 SODDING

## DESCRIPTION

**904-1.1** This item shall consist of furnishing, hauling, and placing approved live sod on prepared areas in accordance with this specification at the locations shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer.

## MATERIALS

**904-2.1 SOD.** Sod furnished by the Contractor shall have a good cover of living or growing grass. This shall be interpreted to include grass that is seasonally dormant during the cold or dry seasons and capable of renewing growth after the dormant period. All sod shall be obtained from areas where the soil is reasonably fertile and contains a high percentage of loamy topsoil. Sod shall be cut or stripped from living, thickly matted turf relatively free of weeds or other undesirable foreign plants, large stones, roots, or other materials which might be detrimental to the development of the sod or to future maintenance. At least 70% of the plants in the cut sod shall be composed of the species stated in the special provisions, and any vegetation more than 6 inches (150 mm) in height shall be mowed to a height of 3 inches (75 mm) or less before sod is lifted. Sod, including the soil containing the roots and the plant growth showing above, shall be cut uniformly to a thickness not less than that stated in the special provisions.

**904-2.2 LIME.** Lime shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.2.

**904-2.3 FERTILIZER.** Fertilizer shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.3.

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**Delete paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 if not applicable.**

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**904-2.4 WATER.** The water shall be sufficiently free from oil, acid, alkali, salt, or other harmful materials that would inhibit the growth of grass. It shall be subject to the approval of the Engineer prior to use.

**904-2.5 SOIL FOR REPAIRS.** The soil for fill and topsoiling of areas to be repaired shall conform to the requirements of 901-2.4.

## CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**904-3.1 GENERAL.** Areas to be solid, strip, or spot sodded shall be shown on the plans. Areas requiring special ground surface preparation such as tilling and those areas in a satisfactory condition which are to remain undisturbed shall also be shown on the plans.

Suitable equipment necessary for proper preparation of the ground surface and for the handling and placing of all required materials shall be on hand, in good condition, and shall be approved by the Engineer before the various operations are started. The Contractor shall demonstrate to the Engineer before starting the various operations that the application of required materials will be made at the specified rates.

**904-3.2 PREPARING THE GROUND SURFACE.** After grading of areas has been completed and before applying fertilizer and limestone, areas to be sodded shall be raked or otherwise cleared of stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, sticks, stumps, and other debris which might interfere with sodding, growth of grasses, or subsequent maintenance of grass-covered areas. If any damage by erosion or other causes occurs after grading of areas and before beginning the application of fertilizer and ground limestone, the Contractor shall repair such damage. This may include filling gullies, smoothing irregularities, and repairing other incidental damage.

**904-3.3 APPLYING FERTILIZER AND GROUND LIMESTONE.** Following ground surface preparation, fertilizer shall be uniformly spread at a rate which will provide not less than the minimum quantity of each fertilizer ingredient, as stated in the special provisions. If use of ground limestone is required, it shall then be spread at a rate which will provide not less than the minimum quantity stated in the special provisions. These materials shall be incorporated into the soil to a depth of not less than 2 inches (50 mm) by discing, raking, or other methods acceptable to the Engineer. Any stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter, large clods, roots, and other litter brought to the surface by this operation shall be removed.

**904-3.4 OBTAINING AND DELIVERING SOD.** After inspection and approval of the source of sod by the Engineer, the sod shall be cut with approved sod cutters to such a thickness that after it has been transported and placed on the prepared bed, but before it has been compacted, it shall have a uniform thickness of not less than 2 inches (50 mm). Sod sections or strips shall be cut in uniform widths, not less than 10 inches (250 mm), and in lengths of not less than 18 inches (45 cm), but of such length as may be readily lifted without breaking, tearing, or loss of soil. Where strips are required, the sod must be rolled without damage with the grass folded inside. The Contractor may be required to mow high grass before cutting sod.

The sod shall be transplanted within 24 hours from the time it is stripped, unless circumstances beyond the Contractor's control make storing necessary. In such cases, sod shall be stacked, kept moist, and protected from exposure to the air and sun and shall be kept from freezing. Sod shall be cut and moved only when the soil moisture conditions are such that favorable results can be expected. Where the soil is too dry, permission to cut sod may be granted only after it has been watered sufficiently to moisten the soil to the depth the sod is to be cut.

**904-3.5 LAYING SOD.** Sodding shall be performed only during the seasons when satisfactory results can be expected. Frozen sod shall not be used and sod shall not be placed upon frozen soil. Sod may be transplanted during periods of drought with the approval of the Engineer, provided the sod bed is watered to moisten the soil to a depth of at least 4 inches (100 mm) immediately prior to laying the sod.

The sod shall be moist and shall be placed on a moist earth bed. Pitch forks shall not be used to handle sod, and dumping from vehicles shall not be permitted. The sod shall be carefully placed by hand, edge to edge and with staggered joints, in rows at right angles to the slopes, commencing at the base of the area to be sodded and working upward. The sod shall immediately be pressed firmly into contact with the sod bed by tamping or rolling with approved equipment to provide a true and even surface, and insure knitting without displacement of the sod or deformation of the surfaces of sodded areas. Where the sod may be displaced during sodding operations, the workmen when replacing it shall work from ladders or treaded planks to prevent further displacement. Screened soil of good quality shall be used to fill all cracks between sods. The quantity of the fill soil shall not cause smothering of the grass. Where the grades are such that the flow of water will be from paved surfaces across sodded areas, the surface of the soil in the sod after compaction shall be set approximately 1 inch (25 mm) below the pavement edge. Where the flow will be over the sodded areas and onto the paved surfaces around manholes and inlets, the surface of the soil in the sod after compaction shall be placed flush with pavement edges.

On slopes steeper than 1 vertical to 2-1/2 horizontal and in v-shaped or flat-bottom ditches or gutters, the sod shall be pegged with wooden pegs not less than 12 inches (300 mm) in length and have a cross-sectional area of not less than 3/4 square inch (18 square millimeter). The pegs shall be driven flush with the surface of the sod.

**904-3.6 WATERING.** Adequate water and watering equipment must be on hand before sodding begins, and sod shall be kept moist until it has become established and its continued growth assured. In all cases, watering shall be

done in a manner which will avoid erosion from the application of excessive quantities and will avoid damage to the finished surface.

**904-3.7 ESTABLISHING TURF.**

**a. General.** The Contractor shall provide general care for the sodded areas as soon as the sod has been laid and shall continue until final inspection and acceptance of the work.

**b. Protection.** All sodded areas shall be protected against traffic or other use by warning signs or barricades approved by the Engineer.

**c. Mowing.** The Contractor shall mow the sodded areas with approved mowing equipment, depending upon climatic and growth conditions and the needs for mowing specific areas. In the event that weeds or other undesirable vegetation are permitted to grow to such an extent that, either cut or uncut, they threaten to smother the sodded species, they shall be mowed and the clippings raked and removed from the area.

**904-3.8 REPAIRING.** When the surface has become bullied or otherwise damaged during the period covered by this contract, the affected areas shall be repaired to re-establish the grade and the condition of the soil, as directed by the Engineer, and shall then be sodded as specified in 904-3.5.

**METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

**904-4.1** This item shall be measured on the basis of the area in square yards (square meters) of the surface covered with sod and accepted.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**904-5.1** This item will be paid for on the basis of the contract unit price per square yard (square meter) for sodding, which price shall be full compensation for all labor, equipment, material, staking, and incidentals necessary to satisfactorily complete the items as specified.

Payment will be made under:

Item T-904-5.1 Sodding--per square yard (square meter)

**END OF ITEM T-904**

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## ITEM T-905 TOPSOILING

### DESCRIPTION

**905-1.1** This item shall consist of preparing the ground surface for topsoil application, removing topsoil from designated stockpiles or areas to be stripped on the site or from approved sources off the site, and placing and spreading the topsoil on prepared areas in accordance with this specification at the locations shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer.

### MATERIALS

**905-2.1 TOPSOIL.** Topsoil shall be the surface layer of soil with no admixture of refuse or any material toxic to plant growth, and it shall be reasonably free from subsoil and stumps, roots, brush, stones (2 inches or more in diameter), clay lumps or similar objects. Brush and other vegetation which will not be incorporated with the soil during handling operations shall be cut and removed. Ordinary sods and herbaceous growth such as grass and weeds are not to be removed but shall be thoroughly broken up and intermixed with the soil during handling operations. The topsoil or soil mixture, unless otherwise specified or approved, shall have a pH range of approximately 5.5 pH to 7.6 pH, when tested in accordance with the methods of testing of the association of official agricultural chemists in effect on the date of invitation of bids. The organic content shall be not less than 3% nor more than 20% as determined by the wet-combustion method (chromic acid reduction). There shall be not less than 20% nor more than 80% of the material passing the 200 mesh (0.075 mm) sieve as determined by the wash test in accordance with ASTM C 117.

Natural topsoil may be amended by the Contractor with approved materials and methods to meet the above specifications.

**905-2.2 INSPECTION AND TESTS.** Within 10 days following acceptance of the bid, the Engineer shall be notified of the source of topsoil to be furnished by the Contractor. The topsoil shall be inspected to determine if the selected soil meets the requirements specified and to determine the depth to which stripping will be permitted. At this time, the Contractor may be required to take representative soil samples from several locations within the area under consideration and to the proposed stripping depths, for testing purposes as specified in 905-2.1.

### CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**905-3.1 GENERAL.** Areas to be topsoiled shall be shown on the plans. If topsoil is available on the site, the location of the stockpiles or areas to be stripped of topsoil and the stripping depths shall be shown on the plans.

Suitable equipment necessary for proper preparation and treatment of the ground surface, stripping of topsoil, and for the handling and placing of all required materials shall be on hand, in good condition, and approved by the Engineer before the various operations are started.

**905-3.2 PREPARING THE GROUND SURFACE.** Immediately prior to dumping and spreading the topsoil on any area, the surface shall be loosened by discs or spike-tooth harrows, or by other means approved by the Engineer, to a minimum depth of 2 inches (50 mm) to facilitate bonding of the topsoil to the covered subgrade soil. The surface of the area to be topsoiled shall be cleared of all stones larger than 2 inches (50 mm) in any diameter and all litter or other material which may be detrimental to proper bonding, the rise of capillary moisture, or the proper growth of the desired planting. Limited areas, as shown on the plans, which are too compact to respond to these operations shall receive special scarification.

Grades on the area to be topsoiled, which have been established by others as shown on the plans, shall be maintained in a true and even condition. Where grades have not been established, the areas shall be smooth-graded and the surface left at the prescribed grades in an even and properly compacted condition to prevent, insofar as practical, the formation of low places or pockets where water will stand.

**905-3.3 OBTAINING TOPSOIL.** Prior to the stripping of topsoil from designated areas, any vegetation, briars, stumps and large roots, rubbish or stones found on such areas, which may interfere with subsequent operations, shall be removed using methods approved by the Engineer. Heavy sod or other cover, which cannot be incorporated into the topsoil by discing or other means shall be removed.

When suitable topsoil is available on the site, the Contractor shall remove this material from the designated areas and to the depth as directed by the Engineer. The topsoil shall be spread on areas already tilled and smooth-graded, or stockpiled in areas approved by the Engineer. Any topsoil stockpiled by the Contractor shall be rehandled and placed without additional compensation. Any topsoil that has been stockpiled on the site by others, and is required for topsoiling purposes, shall be removed and placed by the Contractor. The sites of all stockpiles and areas adjacent thereto which have been disturbed by the Contractor shall be graded if required and put into a condition acceptable for seeding.

When suitable topsoil is secured off the airport site, the Contractor shall locate and obtain the supply, subject to the approval of the Engineer. The Contractor shall notify the Engineer sufficiently in advance of operations in order that necessary measurements and tests can be made. The Contractor shall remove the topsoil from approved areas and to the depth as directed. The topsoil shall be hauled to the site of the work and placed for spreading, or spread as required. Any topsoil hauled to the site of the work and stockpiled shall be rehandled and placed without additional compensation.

**905-3.4 PLACING TOPSOIL.** The topsoil shall be evenly spread on the prepared areas to a uniform depth of 2 inches (50 mm) after compaction, unless otherwise shown on the plans or stated in the special provisions. Spreading shall not be done when the ground or topsoil is frozen, excessively wet, or otherwise in a condition detrimental to the work. Spreading shall be carried on so that turving operations can proceed with a minimum of soil preparation or tilling.

After spreading, any large, stiff clods and hard lumps shall be broken with a pulverizer or by other effective means, and all stones or rocks (2 inches (50 mm) or more in diameter), roots, litter, or any foreign matter shall be raked up and disposed of by the Contractor. After spreading is completed, the topsoil shall be satisfactorily compacted by rolling with a cultipacker or by other means approved by the Engineer. The compacted topsoil surface shall conform to the required lines, grades, and cross sections. Any topsoil or other dirt falling upon pavements as a result of hauling or handling of topsoil shall be promptly removed.

## METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

**905-4.1** Topsoil obtained on the site shall be measured by the number of cubic yards (cubic meters) of topsoil measured in its original position and stripped or excavated. Topsoil stockpiled by others and removed for topsoiling by the Contractor shall be measured by the number of cubic yards (cubic meters) of topsoil measured in the stockpile. Topsoil shall be measured by volume in cubic yards (cubic meters) computed by the method of end areas.

**905-4.2** Topsoil obtained off the site shall be measured by the number of cubic yards (cubic meters) of topsoil measured in its original position and stripped or excavated. Topsoil shall be measured by volume in cubic yards (meters) computed by the method of end areas.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**905-5.1** Payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard (cubic meter) for topsoiling (obtained on the site). This price shall be full compensation for furnishing all materials and for all preparation, placing, and spreading of the materials, and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the item.

**905-5.2** Payment will be made at the contract unit price per cubic yard (cubic meter) for topsoiling (obtained off the site). This price shall be full compensation for furnishing all materials and for all preparation, placing, and spreading of the materials, and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the item.

Payment will be made under:

Item T-905-5.1    Topsoiling (Obtained on Site or Removed from Stockpile--per cubic yard (cubic meter)

Item T-905-5.2    Topsoiling (Furnished from Off the Site)--per cubic yard (cubic meter)

***TESTING MATERIALS***

*ASTM C 117    Materials Finer than 75- $\mu$ m (No. 200) Sieve in Mineral Aggregates by Washing*

**END OF ITEM T-905**

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## ITEM T-907 TILLING

### DESCRIPTION

**907-1.1** This item shall consist of preparing the surface of areas for dust control or erosion control in accordance with this specification at the locations shown on the plans or as directed by the Engineer.

### CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**907-3.1 GENERAL.** Areas to be tilled and areas requiring special attention and tilling shall be shown on the plans.

The tilling work shall be performed only during periods when beneficial and satisfactory results can be reasonably expected. The work shall be stopped when it is unlikely that the desired results will be obtained, due to excessive drought, moisture conditions, or other factors, and resumed only when the conditions again are favorable.

Suitable equipment necessary for proper tilling and for handling all required materials shall be on hand, in good operating condition, and approved by the Engineer before the various operations are started.

#### **907-3.2 TILLING.**

**a. General.** Prior to the commencement of tilling operations, all heavy growths of vegetation on areas shown on the plans to be tilled shall be mowed, raked and burned, used for mulch if suitable, or hauled off the site, as directed by the Engineer.

During tilling operations, the ground surface shall be kept cleared of all cable, wire, or any other waste materials which might hinder final grading, planting, or subsequent maintenance operations. Any irregularities in the surface resulting from tilling or other operations of the Contractor shall be corrected insofar as practical to prevent the formation of low places and pockets where water will stand.

The proper graded areas shall be tilled by the Contractor with suitable plows, discs, scarifying machines, or other power-drawn implements approved by the Engineer.

**b. For Dust and Erosion Control.** The areas to be tilled for dust or erosion control shall be loosened to a depth of at least 4 inches (10 cm) by a tiller tool so that clods will be left on the surface of the ground. In areas where such penetration cannot be accomplished by a tiller tool in one operation, a heavy scarifier shall be used first. On areas 250 feet (76 m) or more from the centerline of runways, as shown on the plans, on which scarifiers will not produce clods of sufficient size and quantity to provide adequate control by the above operation, furrows shall be opened on approximately 36-inch (90 cm) centers to a depth of 5 inches (12 cm) by using an approved type lister. Tilling operations shall commence on the windward side of the field and at right angles to the prevailing wind except on runway shoulders, where they shall be parallel to the pavements. Equipment and operations, other than those specified above, may be used subject to the approval of the Engineer.

**907-3.3 SMOOTH GRADING.** Where final grades have been established by others, they shall be shown on the plans. Where grades have not been established, the areas shall be smooth graded and the surfaces left at the prescribed grades in an even and properly compacted condition which, insofar as practical, will prevent the formation of low places and pockets where water will stand.

**METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

**907-4.1** Tilling shall be measured by the number of acres (square meter), measured by surface area, tilled, smooth graded, and accepted.

**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**907-5.1** Payment will be made at the contract unit price per acre (square meter) for tilling. This price shall be full compensation for furnishing all materials and for all preparation, operation and smooth grading, and for all labor, equipment, tools and incidentals necessary to complete the item.

Payment will be made under:

Item T-907-5.1                      Tilling--per acre (square meter)

**END OF ITEM T-907**

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## ITEM T-908 MULCHING

### DESCRIPTION

**908-1.1** This item shall consist of furnishing, hauling, placing, and securing mulch on surfaces indicated on the plans or designated by the Engineer.

### MATERIALS

**908-2.1 MULCH MATERIAL.** Acceptable mulch shall be the materials listed below or any approved locally available material that is similar to those specified. Low grade, musty, spoiled, partially rotted hay, straw, or other materials unfit for animal consumption will be acceptable. Mulch materials, which contain matured seed of species which would volunteer and be detrimental to the proposed overseeding, or to surrounding farm land, will not be acceptable. Straw or other mulch material which is fresh and/or excessively brittle, or which is in such an advanced stage of decomposition as to smother or retard the planted grass, will not be acceptable.

**a. Hay.** Hay shall be native hay, sudan grass hay, broomsedge hay, legume hay, or similar hay or grass clippings.

**b. Straw.** Straw shall be the threshed plant residue of oats, wheat, barley, rye, or rice from which grain has been removed.

**c. Hay Mulch Containing Seed.** Hay mulch shall be mature hay containing viable seed of native grasses or other desirable species stated in the special provisions or as approved by the Engineer. The hay shall be cut and handled so as to preserve the maximum quantity of viable seed. Hay mulch which cannot be hauled and spread immediately after cutting shall be placed in weather-resistant stacks or baled and stored in a dry location until used.

**d. Manufactured Mulch.** Cellulose-fiber or wood-pulp mulch shall be products commercially available for use in spray applications.

**e. Asphalt Binder.** Asphalt binder material shall conform to the requirements of ASTM D 977, Type SS-1 or RS-1.

**908-2.2 INSPECTION.** Within 5 days after acceptance of the bid, the Engineer shall be notified of sources and quantities of mulch materials available and the Contractor shall furnish him with representative samples of the materials to be used. These samples may be used as standards with the approval of the Engineer and any materials brought on the site which do not meet these standards shall be rejected.

### CONSTRUCTION METHODS

**908-3.1 MULCHING.** Before spreading mulch, all large clods, stumps, stones, brush, roots, and other foreign material shall be removed from the area to be mulched. Mulch shall be applied immediately after seeding. The spreading of the mulch may be by hand methods, blower, or other mechanical methods, provided a uniform covering is obtained.

Mulch material shall be furnished, hauled, and evenly applied on the area shown on the plans or designated by the Engineer. Straw or hay shall be spread over the surface to a uniform thickness at the rate of 2 to 3 tons per acre (1800-2700 kg per acre) to provide a loose depth of not less than 1-1/2 inches (37 cm) nor more than 3 inches (75 mm).

Other organic material shall be spread at the rate directed by the Engineer. Mulch may be blown on the slopes and the use of cutters in the equipment for this purpose will be permitted to the extent that at least 95% of the mulch in place on the slope shall be 6 inches (150 mm) or more in length. When mulches applied by the blowing method are cut, the loose depth in place shall be not less than 1 inch (25 mm) nor more than 2 inches (50 mm).

**908-3.2 SECURING MULCH.** The mulch shall be held in place by light discing, a very thin covering of topsoil, small brush, pins, stakes, wire mesh, asphalt binder, or other adhesive material approved by the Engineer. Where mulches have been secured by either of the asphalt binder methods, it will not be permissible to walk on the slopes after the binder has been applied. The Contractor is warned that in the application of asphalt binder material he must take every precaution to guard against damaging or disfiguring structures or property on or adjacent to the areas worked and that he will be held responsible for any such damage resulting from his/her operations.

If the “peg and string” method is used, the mulch shall be secured by the use of stakes or wire pins driven into the ground on 5-foot (150 m) centers or less. Binder twine shall be strung between adjacent stakes in straight lines and crisscrossed diagonally over the mulch, after which the stakes shall be firmly driven nearly flush to the ground to draw the twine down tight onto the mulch.

### **908-3.3 CARE AND REPAIR.**

**a.** The Contractor shall care for the mulched areas until final acceptance of the project. Such care shall consist of providing protection against traffic or other use by placing warning signs, as approved by the Engineer, and erecting any barricades that may be shown on the plans before or immediately after mulching has been completed on the designated areas.

**b.** The Contractor shall be required to repair or replace any mulching that is defective or becomes damaged until the project is finally accepted. When, in the judgment of the Engineer, such defects or damages are the result of poor workmanship or failure to meet the requirements of the specifications, the cost of the necessary repairs or replacement shall be borne by the Contractor. However, once the Contractor has completed the mulching of any area in accordance with the provisions of the specifications and to the satisfaction of the Engineer, no additional work at his/her expense will be required, but subsequent repairs and replacements deemed necessary by the Engineer shall be made by the Contractor and will be paid for as additional or extra work.

**c.** If the “asphalt spray” method is used, all mulched surfaces shall be sprayed with asphalt binder material so that the surface has a uniform appearance. The binder shall be uniformly applied to the mulch at the rate of approximately 8.0 gallons (32 liters) per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters), or as directed by the Engineer, with a minimum of 6.0 gallons (24 liters) and a maximum of 10 gallons (40 liters) per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters) depending on the type of mulch and the effectiveness of the binder securing it. Bituminous binder material may be sprayed on the mulched slope areas from either the top or the bottom of the slope. An approved spray nozzle shall be used. The nozzle shall be operated at a distance of not less than 4 feet (120 cm) from the surface of the mulch and uniform distribution of the bituminous material shall be required. A pump or an air compressor of adequate capacity shall be used to insure uniform distribution of the bituminous material.

**d.** If the “asphalt mix” method is used, the mulch shall be applied by blowing, and the asphalt binder material shall be sprayed into the mulch as it leaves the blower. The binder shall be uniformly applied to the mulch at the rate of approximately 8.0 gallons (32 liters) per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters) or as directed by the Engineer, with a minimum of 6.0 gallons (24 liters) and a maximum of 10 gallons (40 liters) per 1,000 square feet (100 square meters) depending on the type of mulch and the effectiveness of the binder securing it.

## **METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

**908-4.1** Mulching shall be measured in square yards (square meters) on the basis of the actual surface area acceptably mulched.

## **BASIS OF PAYMENT**

**908-5.1** Payment will be made at the contract unit price per square yard (square meter) for mulching. The price shall be full compensation for furnishing all materials and for placing and anchoring the materials, and for all labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the item.

Payment will be made under:

Item T-908-5.1	Mulching--per square yard (square meter)
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## **MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS**

ASTM D 977	Emulsified Asphalt
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**END OF ITEM T-908**