



**CITY OF NEW ORLEANS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND PARKWAYS**

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**SECTION 02485**  
**SEEDING AND SODDING**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.01 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. The Contractor or Subcontractor shall be required to perform the work specified in the drawings and specifications. All Landscape Horticulturalists shall also have appropriate experience related to the work specified herein.
- B. Contractor shall have a current and valid Louisiana Landscape Horticulturalist License as issued by the Louisiana State Horticultural Commission.
- C. The Contractor shall provide proof of qualifications.

**1.02 STANDARDS**

- A. Meet requirements and recommendations of the applicable portions of the least editions of Standards listed below:
  - 1. U. S. Department of Agriculture. USDA
  - 2. Federal Seed Act. FSA

**PART 2 – PRODUCTS**

**2.01 MATERIALS**

- A. Grass Seed (Between March & September): Shall be Bermuda grass (Cynodon Dactylon) hulled minimum eighty-two (82%) percent by weight of pure live seed, maximum one (1%) percent by weight weed seed. Seed shall be labeled in accordance with the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture Rules and Regulations under the Federal Seed Act.
- B. Grass seed (Between September & March): Shall be half (50%) Annual Ryegrass, minimum eighty-two (82%) percent by weight of pure live seed, maximum one (1%) percent by weight weed seed. The second half (50%) shall be Bermuda Grass (Cynodon Dactylon) Non Hulled Seed. It shall be eighty two (82%) percent by weight of pure live seed, maximum one (1%) percent by weight weed seed. Seeds shall be labeled in accordance with the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture Rules and

Regulations under the Federal Seed Act.

1. The Landscape Architect reserves the right to reject on or after delivery any seed which does not, in his opinion, meet requirements of these specifications.
  2. Certificate of Analysis from each bag of grass seed is to be delivered to the City's Landscape Architect
- C. Sod: Shall be 100% Bermuda Grass (Cynodon Dactylon). It shall be field grown. It shall be at least two (2) years old, well rooted, and cut to a depth of three quarter inch ( $\frac{3}{4}$ "") to one (1") inch. Sod shall be cut in rectangular strips twelve (12") inches wide and of a size which will permit the strip to be lifted without breaking. Sources of sod shall be made known to the Landscape Architect at least five (5) days prior to cutting. Delivered sod shall be approved by the Landscape Architect prior to installation.
- D. Fertilizer:
1. Agriform CRF 16-7-12 (+ Iron) or approved equal.
- E. Herbicide:
1. The Contractor shall supply the necessary amounts of chemicals for weed control upon acceptance of the neutral ground by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. The following list is a list of the exact chemical names and concentrations:
    - i. M.S.M.A 6 Selections Post Emergent Weed Control to contain 6.0 pounds M.S.M.A. per gallon with surfactant at a rate of three gallons per acre.
    - ii. P.B.I. Trimec Broadleaf Herbicide at a rate of three gallons per acre.
- F. Turf Spray Dye (blue): Blazon or Regal Blue Turf colorant in one or five gallon containers at a rate of one gallon per gallon of mixture.
- G. Additional Earth Fill: If required for proper seed or sod bed preparation and finish grading operations, additional fill shall be top soil, clean and free from clay, roots, muck or other objectionable material. Sand shall be pump sand.
- H. Top soil: Shall be friable, natural surface soil obtained from a well drained area and free of all stones, shells, brush, weeds, stumps, roots and other litter. The soil shall have at least six (6%) percent organic matter and an acidity range between pH 5.0 to 7.0 inclusive, and no more than twenty (20%) percent clay. Sand shall be pump sand.
- I. Water Management Gel: Water management gel shall consist of an acrylamide copolymer gel with the ability to retain and release available water to the root zone. The manufacturer's recommended amount the water management gel shall be mixed with the required amount of backfill soil per plant before backfilling.

## PART 3 – EXECUTION

### 3.01 METHODS

#### A. General:

1. The Contractor shall, prior to seeding or sodding operations, repair any ruts, depressions, eroded areas, etc. to the satisfaction of the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect.

#### B. Bed Preparation:

1. Areas to be seeded where existing weeds remain shall be mowed with blades set to a depth of one (1) to one and a half (1½) inch.
2. Fertilizer shall be distributed evenly, by mechanical spreader, over all areas to be seeded. The rate of application shall be twenty (20) pounds per 1,000 square feet. Fertilizer shall be applied not more than one week prior to seeding. Fertilizer shall be uniformly distributed in the top two (2) to four (4) inches of seed bed.

#### C. Finish Grading:

1. Immediately prior to seeding or sodding the bed shall be prepared by breaking, disking, harrowing, balding, dragging or other approved methods. The soil shall be thoroughly pulverized to a minimum depth of approximately four (4") inches and smoothed by means of ranking or other approved methods. Each area shall then be rolled in two directions perpendicular to each other with a light roller and then finely raking shall be done by hand adjacent to structures, walks, curbing, and trees.
2. The finished surface shall be smooth, finely textured, free of all sticks, debris, rubbish, etc. and shall conform to the lines and grades indicated on the drawings and/or as directed by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. All humps, depressions or other irregularities shall be corrected prior to seeding.
3. Grade changes within the dripline of trees shall not exceed two inches.

#### D. Seeding:

1. On the same day that the finish grading operations are performed (with no rain between operations) and after approval by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect of the seed bed, the grass seed shall be applied at the rate of ten (10) pounds each of the specified seed types per 1,000 square feet of seed bed by means of an approved mechanical seed spreader which will provide a depth of ⅛" to ¼".
2. Immediately after seeding, roll seeded areas with a hand roller weighing not less than 150 pounds or more than 200 pounds. Care shall be exercised to prevent foot prints or other disturbances to the finished surface.

E. Hydroseeding:

1. Hydroseeding shall consist of mixing and applying seed, commercial fertilizer, water management gel, and polyacrylamide tackifier with wood fiber and water.
2. Hydroseeding shall occur on the same day that the finish grading operations are performed (with no rain between operations).
3. Seed and fertilizer shall be uniformly spread over the area at the rates specified in Table (A). Paper or wood fiber shall be mixed and applied with the seed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and as approved by the Landscape Architect. The fiber shall be in addition to straw or mulch when straw or mulch is specified. The application rate for pellet-inoculated seed shall be determined using the seed mass exclusive of inoculant materials. The materials and the quantities thereof to be mixed with water will be specified. The quantity of water shall be as needed for application.

Table (A).

<b>Type Fertilizer</b>	<b>Pounds per Acre</b>	<b>Kilogram Per Hectare</b>
8-8-8	1000	1120
12-12-12	667	748
13-13-13	615	689
16-16-16	500	560

4. Mixing of materials for application with hydro-seeding equipment shall be performed in a tank with a built-in continuous agitation system of sufficient operating capacity to produce a homogeneous mixture and a discharge system which will apply the mixture at a continuous and uniform rate. The tank shall have a minimum capacity of 962 gallons (3700 L). The Landscape Architect may authorize use of equipment of smaller capacity if it is demonstrated that the equipment is capable of performing all operations satisfactorily.
5. A dispersing agent may be added to the mixture provided the contractor furnishes evidence that the additive will not affect germination. Any material considered detrimental, as determined by the Landscape Architect, shall not be used.
6. Any mixture containing polyacrylamide tackifier shall not be applied during any rainy weather or when soil temperatures are below 41 degrees F or if the wind speed is above 20 miles per hour. Pedestrian traffic or equipment shall not be permitted to enter areas where hydro-seeding has been applied.

F. Sodding:

1. Prior to sodding, the finished surface shall be free of all sticks, debris and rubbish and shall conform to the lines and grades shown on the drawings or as directed by

the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect.

2. Upon delivery, slab sod shall be transferred and laid properly to avoid gaps and overlay of the soil, rolled or tamped and watered as directed. Butt each piece tightly against the others.
3. Inspection of the work to determine its final acceptance will be made by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. No grass will be accepted unless it is alive and healthy.
4. In the event that sod is laid in place after September 15<sup>th</sup> and before March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Contractor shall be required to over-seed the sod with the required Annual Ryegrass seed as stated in Part 2, "Products", Section 2.01, Materials B, in addition to meeting all related horticultural requirements.

### 3.02 MAINTENANCE AND PROTECTION

- A. Watering shall be required for all areas which have been seeded except when natural precipitation has provided the necessary moisture as determined by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. Watering shall be done in a manner which will prevent erosion due to the application of excessive quantities, and the watering equipment shall be of a type that will prevent damage to the finished surface. A minimum amount of rainfall would be two (2) one (1) inch rainfalls per week. If more water is needed it is the responsibility of the Contractor to provide it.
- B. The seeded areas shall be protected against traffic or other use by placing warning signs of a type approved by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect on the various areas where seeding or sodding has been completed or by other means, such as protective fencing.
- C. The Contractor shall produce dense, vigorous, well established lawn and shall maintain lawn areas until final acceptance of the work by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to the preparation and reseeded or resodding of any bare areas, proper watering refilling of rainwashed gullies and rutted areas, refertilizing and mowing. At the time of the first cutting, mower blades shall be set two and one half (2½) inches high. At least three (3) mowings shall be completed before the work will be accepted. Any areas which fail to show a uniform stand of grass shall be reworked and reseeded at the Contractor's expense with the same seed as originally used thereon, and such reseeded shall be replaced until all required areas are covered with a satisfactory stand of grass. A satisfactory stand of grass is defined as a cover of living grass in which gaps larger than four (4) inches do not occur at the time of acceptance by the Department of Parks and Parkways.
- D. The Contractor shall refertilize the lawn areas after eight (8) weeks and the first two grass cuttings have been made, or as otherwise directed by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect.

### 3.03 FINAL INSPECTION

- A. Inspection of work to determine its final acceptance will be made by the Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect. No plant material, turf included, will be accepted unless it is alive and healthy and all related work conforms to the drawings and specifications.
- B. Should any portion of the work be unacceptable, Contractor shall make all work acceptable and request a re-inspection by Department of Parks and Parkways Landscape Architect, within five (5) working days
- C. The Contractor will be notified by letter of acceptance within five (5) days after re-inspection should the latter be necessary.

END OF SECTION

*New Orleans Parks & Parkways Department*