Supplemental Technical Specification for

SEEDING

SCDOT Designation: SC-M-810-2(04/11)

1.0 Seeding

This Supplemental Specification replaces section 810, *Seeding*, in the *South Carolina Department of Transportation*(SCDOT) *Standard Specifications for Highway Construction*, 2007 Edition.This supplemental specification replaces Supplemental Technical Specification SC-M-810

1.1 Description

This work consists of permanent cover, permanent grassing for small projects, temporary cover, liming and fertilizing (when specified), and applying mulch on all areas shown on the Plans or where directed by the Resident Construction Engineer (RCE) in accordance with these Specifications. The Contractor coordinates seeding with the construction of fill and cut slopes. In order to limit the area of erodible material, the RCE may require that partially completed slopes be brought to the required slope and the Contractor perform permanent or temporary cover operations at that time.

Small Projects are defined as projects which do not require coverage under the NPDES Construction General Permit SCR100000. In addition projects consisting of improving shoulders with a width of less than six feet due to backfill from resurfacing or upgrading deficient shoulders are also exempt from NPDES requirements and are classified as Small Projects.

1.2 Materials

1.2.1 General

The Contractor shall, at the time of delivery, furnish the RCE invoices and or documentation of all materials received in order to determine the application rate of materials.

1.2.2 Seed

Use seed that conforms to all state laws and all requirements and regulations of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA). Seeds containing species designated by the State Crop Pest Commission as a plant pest (i.e., noxious weeds) are not permitted. Use seed that is individually packaged or bagged and tagged. Each tag must clearly state:

- Net weight
- Botanical name
- Common name
- Variety
- Grower name
- Grower lot number
- Percent purity
- Percent germination
- Percent other crop seed
- Percent inert matter
- Percent weed seed (if weed seed is present, provide a list of species by botanical name)
- Origin

- cold water processed seaweed extract
- cytokinins
- gibberellins
- auxins (growth hormones)
- endo-mycorrhizae.

Provide biological growth stimulants that:

- Contain plant growth hormones which act as a stimulant to improve vegetative growth and intake of micro-nutrients and can reduce damage from disease and insect infestation.
- Contain humic acid and/or other components that increases biological activity in the soil to improve stress tolerance/drought resistance, reduces sodium uptake in sandy soils, provides more phosphorus availability, and increases cation exchange capacity resulting in earlier germination and better root establishment.

Animal by-products or municipal waste products are not acceptable biological growth stimulants under this specification. Liquid fertilizers are not acceptable as biological growth stimulants under this specification.

Provide biological growth stimulants composed of non-toxic materials.

Provide Biological Growth Stimulants that have no germination or growth inhibiting factors and do not form a water-resistant crust that can inhibit plant growth. Furnish biological growth stimulants where all components are pre-packaged by the manufacturer to ensure material performance and compliance with the minimum requirements in Table 3.

Table 3: Minimum Biological Growth Stimulant Requirements

BGS Property	Test Method	Required Value
Physical		
Humate/Humic Acid		1% minimum
Acute Toxicity	ASTM 7101 EPA 2021 0-1	Non Toxic
Performance		
Seed Germination	ASTM D7322[1]	200% minimum
Plant Height	ASTM D7322[1]	200% minimum
Plant Mass	ASTM D7322[1]	110% minimum

[1] Alternative Test Methods from Independent 3rd party testing facilities will be accepted until January 31, 2012.
[2] ASTM test methods developed for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs) that have been modified for comparison to control between 14 and 21 days.

Provide biological growth stimulants from a manufacturer listed on the most recent edition of the *SCDOT Qualified Product List 74* and provide documentation of testing in an approved independent laboratory demonstrating performance based on enhanced plant germination.

1.2.3 Lime

1.2.3.1 *Agricultural Granular Lime*

Use solid agricultural granular lime for all permanent cover applications that is agricultural grade, standard ground limestone conforming to the current *Rules, Regulations, and Standards of the Fertilizer Board of Control*. These rules, regulations, and standards are promulgated and issued by the Fertilizer Board of Control at Clemson University in accordance with Section 16 of the *South Carolina Liming Materials Act*. Ensure that each bag has affixed to a conspicuous manner a tag or label, or in the case of bulk sales, a delivery slip showing brand or trade name, calcium carbonate equivalent, percent by weight passing prescribed U.S. Standard Sieves, and other particulars information to identify lime as being agricultural grade, standard ground limestone.

1.2.3.2 Fast Acting Lime

Use fast acting liquid form and/or dry forms of lime for all temporary cover by seeding and permanent cover applications that meet all of the requirements of agriculture grade granular lime specified herein, except percent by weight passing U.S. Standard Sieves.

1.2.4 Fertilizer and Biological Growth Stimulants

1.2.4.1 Granular Fertilizer

Use granular fertilizer for all permanent cover applications that complies with the fertilizer laws of the State. Use mixed fertilizer such as 10-10-10, the first number represents the percent of nitrogen required, the second number represents the percent of available phosphoric acid required, and the third number represents the percent of water soluble potash required in the fertilizer. **Use fertilizer that incorporates a minimum of 50% water insoluble (slow release) nitrogen.** Use fertilizer that is in package slip clearly stating the percentage of nitrogen, water insoluble nitrogen, percentage of phosphoric acid, and percentage of potash along with the weight (pounds) of nitrogen, weight (pounds) of phosphoric acid, and weight (pounds) of potash. Animal by-product or municipal waste fertilizers are not acceptable under this Specification.

1.2.4.2 Biological Growth Stimulants

Provide biological growth stimulants for all permanent cover and temporary cover by seeding applications. Use biological growth stimulants that provide an immediate seedbed adjustment to help stimulate seed germination, improve the availability of nutrients in the grass, increase the number and depth of root development, and generate robust plant growth which is more tolerant of changes in environmental conditions.

Use biological growth stimulants that:

- Provide natural plant hormones, amino and cytokinins that encourage nutrient uptake, nitrogen metabolism, and carbohydrates storage.
- Improve fertilizer utilization in the soil by increasing the enzymatic and microbial nutrient conversion activity.
- Improve photosynthetic production resulting in greater root mass and improved disease resistance.
- Contains endo-mycorrhizae to improve nutrient and water uptake by the plant.

Provide biological growth stimulants that contain compounds such as

- humic acid (humates)

When mixtures of different types of seed are called for in the seeding schedule the Contractor may use pre-blended mixtures that are individually packaged or bagged and tagged with the tag specifying the botanical and common name of each species contained in the blend, and the percentages of each species.

When pre-blended seed mixtures are not used, each species shall be weighed and mixed in the proper proportions on-site in the presence of the RCE or a member of the RCE's staff.

SCDOT reserves the right to test, reject, or approve all seed before seeding.

1.2.5.1 Seeding Schedule

Unless otherwise provided, select seed from Table 1, Perennials, and Table 2, Annuals, for the UpperState and the LowerState as applicable to the project. The LowerState consists of all counties east of and including Aiken, Lexington, Richland, Kershaw, and Chesterfield counties. The UpperState consists of all counties west of the LowerState, i.e. all the remaining counties (see Figure 1).

If the seed listed in the tables is not available, the Contractor may select the most practicable alternative seed available as a substitute. The Contractor must submit data to the RCE showing that the substitute seed is appropriate for the specific application.

Select a minimum of two (2) seed types from Table 1 for all permanent cover and permanent grassing for small projects based on the specific application and the availability of the seed. A minimum of one (1) of the seed types selected must be a tall-type species. The Contractor may also add a minimum of one (1) acceptable annual nurse crop species from Table 2 to the rate shown in Table 2, or a mix of two (2) or more annual nurse crop species from Table 2 with one species applied at a minimum rate of approximately 75% of the rate shown in Table 2 and the other species applied at a rate that does not exceed approximately 50% of the rate shown in Table 2.

When the seeding schedule utilizes more than two (2) perennial seed types from Table 1, apply the primary turf-type species at the rate shown in Table 1 and the Contractor may apply the additional perennial seeds at a rate less than the rate shown in Table 1.

The exceptions for selecting a minimum of two (2) permanent cover species from Table 1 are:

- Mediums: Use a minimum of one (1) turf-type species from Table 1 and one (1) acceptable annual nurse crop from Table 2 for mediums in the UpperState and LowerState.
- Shoulders in LowerState: Use a minimum of one (1) turf-type species from Table 1 and the Contractor may add an acceptable annual nurse crop from Table 2 for Shoulder work in the LowerState.

Select a minimum of one (1) seed type from Table 1 for all temporary cover by seeding based on the specific application and the availability of the seed

If the Common Name of the seed listed in Table 1 or Table 2 is not available, use seed with the listed Botanical Name.

1.2.5.2 Seeding Plan

Prepare and submit a seeding plan to the RCE utilizing the seeding schedule for all temporary cover by seeding and permanent cover applications. The RCE will approve all seeding plans before temporary cover by seeding and permanent cover applications are initiated.

1.2.5.3 Straw or Hay Mulch with Tackifier

Use straw or hay mulch material that consists of certified weed free straw or hay. Use straw that consists of stalks of wheat, rye, barley, oats, or other approved straw. Use hay that consists of Timothy, Pasture, Alfalfa, Coastal Bermuda, or other grasses from approved sources. Use materials that are reasonably dry and reasonably free from mature seed-bearing stalks, roots, or bulbs of Johnson grass, Nutgrass, Sandbur, Wild Garlic, Wild Onion, Wild Mustard, Crotalaria, Papaver, Wisteria, and Cocklebur. Comply with all state and federal domestic plant quarantine regulations. Straw mulch is not to be used in urban areas or in areas adjacent to sidewalks, guardrails, curbs, curb and gutters, or concrete median.

Do not use straw or hay mulch with tackifiers for temporary cover by mulch applications on slopes steeper than 4H:1V.

Anchor straw mulch material using one of the following tacking agents:

1.2.5.1.1 Organic or Chemical Tackifier

Use an organic or chemical tackifier that consists of guar gum, plantago, polysaccharides, polymer synthetic resin, polypectate, liquid latex, or other material that will give adhesive properties as asphalt emulsion when sprayed on straw mulches. Organic or chemical tackifiers require approval by the RCE.

1.2.5.1.2 Hydraulic Straw Tackifiers

Use hydraulic straw tackifiers that meet the requirements of this Specification. Apply hydraulic erosion control products at the manufacturer's recommended rate for straw binding.

1.2.5.1.3 Emulsified Asphalt

Use Emulsified Asphalt that meets the requirements of Subsection 407.2.A. Delete Emulsified Asphalt at the manufacturing plant with water, if necessary, to provide a homogenous and satisfactory material for spraying.

1.2.5.2 Hydraulic Erosion Control Products(HECPs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for HECP (SC-M-815-11) or latest revision*for HECP construction requirements.

1.2.5.3 Compost Mulch

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Compost(SC-M-815-) or latest revision*for Compost Mulch description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.2.5.4 Temporary Erosion Control Blankets (ECBs)

*Refer to SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECP) (SC-M-815-9) or latest revision*for Temporary Erosion Control Blanket (ECB) description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.2.5.5 Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRMs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs)(SC-M-815-9) or latest revision* for Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRM) description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.2.5.6 Slope Interruption Devices

The maximum allowable continuous slope length for all areas to be mulched with HECP, compost mulch, and ECB applications in 50 feet. Slope interruption devices or TRMs are required for continuous slope length longer than 50 feet. Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Inlet Structure Filters Type F – Non Weighted (SC-M-815-8) or latest revision* for slope interruption device description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.3 Construction Requirements

1.3.1 Seeding Dates and Rates of Application

Perform seeding operations within the dates and at the rates specified in the seeding tables of this specification. Do not use temporary cover by seeding, permanent cover, and permanent grassing for small projects when the prescribed dates and rates in the 10-day forecasted low temperature remains below 35 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not use temporary cover by seeding, permanent cover, and permanent grassing for small projects when the ground is excessively wet. Do not conduct seeding work when the ground is frozen or when the 10-day forecasted snow monitoring is specified in the Contract or directed by the DCE. During periods of cold weather, use temporary stabilization by mulch according to this Specification.

Seedbed Preparation

Ensure that the seedbed to be seeded are uniform and conform to the finished grade and cross-section shown on the Plans or as otherwise directed by the RCE. Perform minor shaping and evening of uneven and rough areas outside of graded sections as directed by the RCE in order to provide for more effective erosion control and for ease of subsequent mowing operations.

Loosen the seedbed (including cut slopes) to a minimum depth of three (3) inches before compost, agricultural lime, fertilizer, mulch, or seed is applied. An acceptable method of preparing the seedbed on slopes is vertically tracking the slope with grader and down the slope with proper equipment.

Remove stones larger than two and one-half (2½) inches in any dimension, large clods, roots, or other debris brought to the surface.

Use compost as directed by the RCE for shoulders and slopes if good seedbed material is not located on site.

1.3.3 Soil Amendments

1.3.3.1 Compost

For seedbeds that have little or no topsoil, and are determined to be deficient from the results of the soil analysis, furnish, place, and mix select material to a minimum depth of 3 inches into the seedbed in order to ensure a good stand of grass. Refer to *SCDOT Compost Specification (SC-M-815-3) or latest revision* for description, materials, and construction requirements.

As directed by the RCE, provide compost when seedbeds are excessively nutrient deficient to the extent of requiring costly fertilizer additions and or have excessively less pH values (lower than 5.0) to the extent of requiring costly lime additions.

1.3.3.2 Select Material

For seedbeds that have little or no topsoil, and are determined to be deficient from the results of the soil analysis, furnish,place, and mix select material to a minimum depth of 3 inches into the seedbed in order to ensure a good stand of grass.

As directed by the RCE, provide select material for seedbeds that are excessively nutrient depleted to the extent of requiring costly fertilizer additions and or have excessively low pH values (5.0 or lower) to the extent of requiring costly lime additions

Select material consists of a friable material containing grass roots and is comparatively porous, capable of growing grass, and visible in nature. When compacted,select material will resist erosion and be capable of supporting vegetation when relatively wet.

1.3.4 Soil Analysis

A soil analysis is not required for permanent grassing on Small Projects and temporary cover by seeding. A soil analysis is required on all permanent cover applications. A soil analysis is required on all representative soil types for the specified vegetation species prior to agricultural granular lime and granular fertilizer applications. The RCE determines where distinguishable representative soil types are located on the project site. Representative soil types include existing predominate soils on the project site, cut slopes, fill material, and areas of exposed subsoil.

Collect one (1) soil sample for each distinguishable representative soil type. One (1) sample consists of mixing ten (10) sub-samples taken uniformly over each distinguishable representative soil type. Soil samples should be taken from stockpiles where the material will be the top six (6) inches of the seedbed. Take each sub-sample within the top four (4) to six (6) inches of the soil surface.

Submit a separate soil sample for each representative soil type to a SCDOT certified soil testing laboratory.

The soil analysis determines the need and rate of lime and fertilizer applications. At a minimum, a standard soil test includes pH, buffer pH, extractable phosphorus, potassium, lime requirements and recommendations, calculations for CEC (cation exchange capacity), and fertilizer requirements and recommendations.

1.3.5 Applying Lime

1.3.5.1 Agricultural Granular Lime

A soil analysis is required prior to agricultural granular lime applications. The soil analysis determines the need and rate of granular lime application for a given application area. Based on the results of the soil analysis, furnish granular lime to provide a long-term pH adjustment. Following adequate preparation and placing of soil amendments when called for in the Contract or directed by the RCE, uniformly spread lime over the designated areas.Thoroughly mix agricultural granular lime with the soil to a depth of approximately two (2) inches. Mixing is not required when spreading lime with hydraulic methods.

Adequately scarify all slopes subject to slides and inaccessible to power equipment. Lime may be applied by approved mechanical spreaders or by hydraulic methods as a mixture of lime and seed.

Apply all agricultural granular lime at a rate that is within ±10% of the weight recommendation of the soil analysis.

Agricultural granular lime is not required for temporary cover by seeding applications unless a soil analysis is requested by the RCE and indicates a pH below 5.0.

1.3.5.2 Fast Acting Lime

Fast acting liquid and dry lime provides an immediate pH adjustment. Use fast acting liquid or fast acting dry forms of lime for all temporary cover by seeding and permanent cover by seeding applications. Apply fast acting liquid lime at a rate of 2 gallons per acre or per the manufacturer's recommendations. Apply fast acting dry lime at a rate of 100 pounds per acre or per the manufacturer's recommendations.

1.3.6 Applying Fertilizer and Biological Growth Stimulants

1.3.6.1 Agricultural Granular Fertilizer

A soil analysis is required prior to agricultural granular fertilizer applications. The soil analysis determines the need and rate of fertilizer applications for the specific vegetation species. Following adequate preparation and placing of soil amendments when called for in the Contract or directed by the RCE, uniformly spread fertilizer over the designated areas.

Adequately scarify all slopes subject to slides and inaccessible to power equipment. Fertilizer may be applied by approved mechanical spreaders or by hydraulic methods as a mixture of fertilizer and seed. When fertilizer is applied with combination seed and fertilizer drills, no further incorporation is necessary. Apply the fertilizer and seed together when hydraulic methods of seeding are used.

Apply all fertilizer at a rate that is within ±10% of the weight recommendation of the soil analysis. Fertilizer that is within ±2 percentage points of the recommendation of the soil analysis.

The required application of nitrogen includes a minimum of 50% water insoluble (slow release) nitrogen under this Specification.

When a fertilizer blend meeting the soil analysis requirements is not readily available, the Contractor may combine fertilizers of different compositions to meet the soil analysis composition requirements. Apply the fertilizer at a rate to achieve the amount of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash that would have been accomplished by utilizing the fertilizer specified by the soil analysis.

In all cases, under for guidelines of this Specification, apply nitrogen and phosphorus at a rate that does not exceed the soil analysis recommendation while keeping the actual nitrogen and phosphorus rate as close to the soil analysis recommended rate to the maximum extent practicable

Payment is made for the number of pounds of fertilizer applied as required by the soil analysis. A separate payment for each of the three fertilizer components (nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash).

1.3.6.2 Biological Growth Stimulants

Use biological growth stimulants for all permanent cover and temporary cover by seeding applications. Apply biological growth stimulants specific at the manufacturer's recommended rate. Ensure that all biological growth stimulant applications strictly follow the manufacturer's recommendations. Avoid damage or burning of the seedbed. Use approved hydraulic methods to apply biological growth stimulants.

Deliver materials and produce sealed in factory labeled containers. Store seed bundle in strict compliance with manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Protect seed from damage from weather, excessive temperatures, and construction operations.

Degradation of biological growth stimulants can be expected to occur as a result of mechanical degradation, chemical degradation, biological hydrolysis, soil, and temperatures. Where necessary, reapply biological growth stimulants in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Reapplication is not required unless biological growth stimulant rapid mat disintegration, stability or water quality shows the need for an additional application. If biological growth stimulants treated seeds are left unfinished, the necessity of reapplication will be determined by the RCE. The department will not pay for the reapplication of biological growth stimulants within 45 days of the initial application unless the reapplication is approved by the RCE.

1.3.7 Temporary Cover

Perform temporary cover by mulch or temporary cover by seeding within seven (7) days when a site will not be worked for 21 days up to a maximum of 60 days. If the site will not be worked for a period longer than 60 days, then temporary cover by seeding is required.

Do not use temporary cover by seeding when the ground is frozen and/or when the 10-day forecasted low temperature remains below 35 degrees Fahrenheit.

Stantly all temporary cover areas before fill is placed on top of the temporary cover area.

1.3.7.1 Temporary Cover by Mulch

Use an appropriate mulch as listed in this Specification. Apply the mulch with a minimum continuous soil coverage of 95% that is maintained across the entire application area.

Temporary cover by mulch may be used on isolated problem areas or where it is not feasible or practicable to bring an area to final slope and grade. Finish the surface so that permanent cover can be performed without subsequent serious disturbance by additional grading.

1.3.7.2 Temporary Cover by Seeding

Following the preparation of the seedbed according to this Specification, sow seed prior to a rainfall event that compacts the seedbed. Using the seeding tables specified in the seeding tables in this Section 1.2, the Contractor will determine all rates of application necessary to produce the required results and follow the application procedures as specified herein. Uniformly sow seed at the rate specified by the use of approved mechanical seed drills, rotary hand seeders, hydraulic equipment, or any other type of equipment that produces a uniform seed application.

After sowing temporary seed, apply an appropriate mulch as listed in this Specificationprior to a rainfall event that compacts the seedbed. On small areas inaccessible to machinery, the seed may be covered by hand rakes or other methods satisfactory to the RCE. When required by the RCE, add fertilizer and lime as directed by a soil analysis.

1.3.8 Acceptance of Temporary Cover

Before acceptance of temporary cover, the Contractor will be required to produce temporary cover sufficient to control erosion for a period of one month and length of time before the next phase of construction or the establishment of permanent cover is to commence.

If the temporary cover is disturbed by the prime, grading, or other contractor before acceptable temporary cover is established, the temporary cover will be re-established at no cost to the SCDOT.

The Contractor will be required to produce a satisfactory stand of temporary cover meeting the requirements of this Specificationregardless of the time of the year the work is performed.

1.3.9 Permanent Cover

Perform permanent cover with seeding within 21 days of when the site was last worked. Following the application of fertilizers and preparation of seedbed according to this Specification; perform permanent cover within 5 working days and/or prior to a rainfall event that compacts the prepared seedbed. Using the seed specified in the seeding tables in section 1.2, the Contractor will create a seeding plan and determine

all rates of application necessary to produce the required stand of grass and follow the application procedures as specified herein.Uniformly sow seed at the rate specified by the use of approved mechanical seed drills, rotary hand seeders, hydraulic equipment, or any other type of equipment that produces a uniform seed application.

After sowing permanent seed, apply an appropriate mulch as listed in this Specification within 5 working days and/or prior to a rainfall event that compacts the prepared seedbed. On small areas inaccessible to machinery, the seed may be covered by hand rakes or other methods satisfactory to the RCE. Add fertilizer and lime as directed by a soil analysis

1.3.10 Mulch

Apply mulch according to Table 4.

TABLE 4: MULCH

Mulch	Applicable Slopes[1]	Minimum Application Rate	Min. Slope Interruption Device Height (in)
		Required[2]	
Straw or Hay with Tackifier	≤ 4:1	2,000	N/A
HECP Type I - Tracer under RECP	Per RECP	1000	N/A
HECP Type 1	≤ 4:1	2,000	N/A
HECP Type 2	4:1< S ≤ 3:1	2,500	N/A
HECP Type 3	3:1< S ≤ 2:1	3,000	N/A
HECP Type 4	2:1< S ≤ 1:1	3,500	N/A
	>1:1	4,000 (tarp cover only)[4]	
Compost Mulch	≤ 2:1	200 CY/acre	N/A
When slopes are steeper than achievable by mulch applications, consider Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs), Erosion Control Blankets (ECB), or Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRM)			
Temporary ECB or Type I TRM	≤ 2:1	N/A	5
Type 2 TRM	≤ 1.5:1	N/A	5
Type 3 TRM	≤ 1:1	N/A	5

1 A higher level of mulch may be applied than specified on the Plans, specifications, and other terms of the Contract. In this situation, the higher level mulch is to be applied at the specified mulch rate for the actual slope conditions of the site in accordance with the mulch table.Payment will be made for the mulch specified per the higher level mulch.

2 The maximum allowable continuous slope length for all mulch and ECB applications is 50 feet. Slope interruption devices or TRMs are required for continuous slope length longer than 50 feet.

3 Strictly comply with the manufacturer's mixing recommendations and installation instructions for the actual slope encountered the actual continuous slope length of the application.

4 HECP Type 4 may be used for permanent cover applications on slopes 1:1 or greater at a minimum rate of 4,500 pounds per acre as directed by the RCE only when proper TRM installation is not practicable due to site conditions.

1.3.10.1 Straw or Hay Mulch with Tackifier

Uniformly apply straw or hay mulch material at the rate of 2000 pounds per acre. Straw or hay may be spread either by hand, by approvable mechanical spreaders, or by blowers. Apply straw or hay mulch when sunlight penetration, air circulation, partial shading of the ground, and conservation of soil moisture. Secure newly laid straw mulch with an approved tackifier. Replace all straw mulch displaced by wind or tackifier application process.

1.3.10.1.1Organic or Chemical Tackifier

These tackifiers consist of guar gum, plantago, polysaccharides, polymer synthetic resin, polypectate, liquid latex, or other material that will give adhesive properties as asphalt emulsion when sprayed on straw mulches. Applications should be heavier at edges, in valleys, and areas of concentrated flow. Use other adequate tacks for straw mulch may be spayed by wind or water. All other tackifiers must have a minimum of [illegible] curing agents approved by the RCE and [illegible] the manufacturer's recommended rate.

1.3.10.1.2 Hydraulic Straw Tackifiers

Apply hydraulic straw tackifiers in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations for straw binding.

1.3.10.1.3 Emulsified Asphalt

Dilute Emulsified Asphalt at the manufacturing plant with an equal amount of water and uniformly apply it over the straw in a fine spray at the rate of 1 gallon per square yard. Apply the film at approximately 0.20 gallon of dilution per square yard in sufficient quantity to tack the straw mulch and prevent wind erosion without creating a heavy asphalt application.

Emulsified Asphalt may not be applied over straw mulch in urban areas or along sidewalks, curb and gutters, bridges, and water.

1.3.10.2 Hydraulic Erosion Control Product(HECPs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for HECPs (SC-M-815-11) or latest revision* for HECP construction requirements.

1.3.10.3 Compost

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Compost(SC-M-815-3) or latest revision* for construction requirements.

1.3.10.4 Temporary Erosion Control Blankets (ECBs)

Refer to SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECP) (SC-M-815-9) or latest revision for Temporary Erosion Control Blanket (ECB) construction requirements. For permanent cover applications using hydraulic methods for seed application, apply seed with HECP Type 1 as a tracer at a minimum rate of 1000 pounds/acre prior to RECP installation. Payment for the application of HECPType 1 as a tracer is a separate bid item.

1.3.10.5 Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRMs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs)(SC-M-815-9) or latest revision* for Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRM) construction requirements. For permanent cover applications, when using hydraulic methods for seed application, apply seed with HECP Type 1 as a tracer at a minimum rate of 1000 pounds/acre prior to RECP installation. Payment for the application of HECPType 1 as a tracer is a separate bid item.

1.3.10.6 Slope Interruption Devices

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Inlet Structure Filters Type F – Non Weighted (SC-M-815-8) or latest revision* for slope interruption device description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.3.11 Permanent Grassing for Small Projects

Select seed in accordance with Section 1.2 of this specification. Using the seed specified in the seeding tables, the Contractor will create a seeding plan and determine all rates of application necessary to produce the required stand of grass and follow the application procedures as specified herein.

Select nutrients based on experience and past success. Soil samples, watering and any other section of this seeding specification can be used to obtain better results but are not required. If granular fertilizer and lime are used, sow seed within 24 hours following the application and preparation of the seedbed. Uniformly sow seed at the rate specified by the use of approved mechanical seed drills, rotary hand seeders, hydraulic equipment, or any other type of equipment that produces a uniform seed and nutrient application.

Permanent grassing for small projects does not require the application of mulch when the width of the seeding application is less than six (6) feet and seeding is compacted using a roll-packer or light roller. Compaction is not necessary if seeds are planted by mechanized seed drills that perform a compaction procedure. Track slopes inaccessible to compaction equipment prior to seeding. Stabilize slopes that cannot be tracked with the appropriate mulch.

1.3.12 Acceptance of Permanent Cover and Permanent Grassing for Small Projects

Before acceptance of permanent cover or permanent grassing for small projects, a uniform perennial vegetative cover with a density of 70% of each square yard of the seeded area is required by the Contractor. A well developed root system must be established to sufficiently survive dry periods and water shortages and be capable of reestablishment in the spring.

1.3.13 Protection of Structures

Temporary cover by seeding may be used in isolated problem areas or where it is not feasible or practicable to bring an area to final slope and grade. Finish the surface so that permanent cover can be performed without subsequent serious disturbance by additional grading.

1.3.14 Selective Watering for Vegetation

Note: Selective Watering for Vegetation is to be used to establish a bid price per gallon of water in the event that the District Construction Engineer (DCE) determines that watering is necessary. Selective Watering for Vegetation is not intended to be used for all projects or an entire project site.

Selective Watering for vegetation consists of selectively applying water to seeded areas that are slow to develop or deficient at adequate density. Use Selective Watering to enhance germination and enhance root growth in poor growth areas.

When directed by the DCE use the following guidelines in areas where germination has not occurred within 21 days after planting:

- Keep the soil moist but not excessively wet until the seed germinates.
- Water a minimum of three (3) days a week for two (2) weeks preferably watering two (2) or three (3) times a day in small quantities.
- Use fine spray and low pressure to avoid soil wash and to prevent uncovering buried seeds.
- When applicable, water during early morning hours or early evening hours.
- Do not water when rain is forecasted for the area.

When directed by the DCE, use the following guidelines in areas where adequate density is a problem after emergence:

- Apply one (1) inch of water per irrigation event. (Note: 1-acre-inch = 27,154 gallons. This is the volume of water necessary to cover one (1) acre one (1) inch deep.)
- During summer, water two (2) to three (3) days per week.
- During winter, water once every ten (10) to fourteen (14) days.
- If rainfall occurs, suspend watering according to rainfall amount.

Closely monitor the different areas to ensure germination and density of cover. Further analysis of the soil, application of soil amendments, or re-seeding may be necessary if the problem area persists.

1.3.15 Mowing

Mowing consists of mowing areas seeded or sodded under the Contract or other areas as necessary to provide adequate sight areas and to maintain the project in a satisfactory manner. Mowing will be performed by the Contractor when directed by the RCE and such mowing will commence within three (3) business days following verbal notification by the RCE. Failure of the Contractor to comply with the above may be grounds for stopping work on the project or withholding payment of the monthly construction estimate.

Mow shoulders and medians when vegetation reaches a height of approximately eighteen (18) to twenty four (24) inches. Use mowing equipment equipped with safety devices designed to prevent injury or property damage caused by flying debris projected from under the mowing equipment. Keep all mowing equipment in good operating condition and keep the equipment maintained to provide a clean, sharp cut of vegetation at all times. If the RCE determines the equipment is defective to the point that the quality of work or safety is affected, immediately repair or replace the equipment.

Ensure that mowing results in a uniform vegetation height of four (4) to six (6) inches, unless otherwise directed by the RCE. Mow as closely as possible to all fixed objects exercising care not to damage trees, plants, shrubs, signs, delineators, or other appurtenances which are a part of the facility. Hand trimming around such objects may be required of the Contractor.

Remove litter and debris prior to beginning mowing operations. Immediately remove and properly dispose of all litter and debris resulting from mowing operations. Mowed grass is not normally removed unless it becomes a hazard as determined by the RCE.

Do not perform mowing when, in the opinion of the RCE, soil and weather conditions are such that rutting or other damage to the project may occur. The three-business-day period may be extended by the RCE until the soil and weather conditions become suitable for mowing on the project.

1.3.16 Inspection and Maintenance

Perform all maintenance necessary to keep permanent cover, permanent grassing for small projects, temporary coverby seeding, and temporary cover by mulch areas in a satisfactory condition until the work is finally accepted. This includes mowing, repairing areas of erosion and washes, and replacing seeding, seed, fertilizer, and mulch in areas where a satisfactory stand of grass has not been achieved. Water seeded areas as directed by the DCE. The Contractor is not responsible for permanent cover, permanent grassing for small projects, temporary cover by seeding, and temporary cover by mulch areas damaged by insects, animals, or extreme rainfall events. An extreme rainfall event is defined as being [illegible] rain amount greater based on the inches of rain received per time interval [illegible]. 24-hr duration for the particular location as determined from the current NOAA precipitation [illegible].

1.3.0 Straw or Hay Mulch with Tackifier

Uniformly apply straw or hay mulch material at the rate of 2000 pounds per acre. Straw or hay may be spread either by hand, by approvable mechanical spreaders, or by blowers. Apply straw or hay mulch when sunlight penetration, air circulation, partial shading of the ground, and conservation of soil moisture. Secure newly laid straw mulch with an approved tackifier. Replace all straw mulch displaced by wind or tackifier application process.

1.3.0.1.1Organic or Chemical Tackifier

These tackifiers consist of guar gum, plantago, polysaccharides, polymer synthetic resin, polypectate, liquid latex, or other material that will give adhesive properties as asphalt emulsion when sprayed on straw mulches. Applications should be heavier at edges, in valleys, and areas of concentrated flow. Use other adequate tacks for straw mulch may be spayed by wind or water. All other tackifiers must have a minimum of [illegible] curing agents approved by the RCE and [illegible] the manufacturer's recommended rate.

1.3.0.1.2 Hydraulic Straw Tackifiers

Apply hydraulic straw tackifiers in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations for straw binding.

1.3.0.1.3 Emulsified Asphalt

Dilute Emulsified Asphalt at the manufacturing plant with an equal amount of water and uniformly apply it over the straw in a fine spray at the rate of 1 gallon per square yard. Apply the film at approximately 0.20 gallon of dilution per square yard in sufficient quantity to tack the straw mulch and prevent wind erosion without creating a heavy asphalt application.

Emulsified Asphalt may not be applied over straw mulch in urban areas or along sidewalks, curb and gutters, bridges, and water.

1.3.0.2 Hydraulic Erosion Control Product(HECPs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for HECPs (SC-M-815-11) or latest revision* for HECP construction requirements.

1.3.0.3 Compost

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Compost(SC-M-815-3) or latest revision* for construction requirements.

1.3.0.4 Temporary Erosion Control Blankets (ECBs)

Refer to SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECP) (SC-M-815-9) or latest revision for Temporary Erosion Control Blanket (ECB) construction requirements. For permanent cover applications using hydraulic methods for seed application, apply seed with HECP Type 1 as a tracer at a minimum rate of 1000 pounds/acre prior to RECP installation. Payment for the application of HECPType 1 as a tracer is a separate bid item.

1.3.0.5 Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRMs)

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs)(SC-M-815-9) or latest revision* for Turf Reinforcement Matting (TRM) construction requirements. For permanent cover applications, when using hydraulic methods for seed application, apply seed with HECP Type 1 as a tracer at a minimum rate of 1000 pounds/acre prior to RECP installation. Payment for the application of HECPType 1 as a tracer is a separate bid item.

1.3.0.6 Slope Interruption Devices

Refer to *SCDOT Supplemental Specification for Inlet Structure Filters Type F – Non Weighted (SC-M-815-8) or latest revision* for slope interruption device description, materials, and construction requirements.

1.3.0.1 Permanent Grassing for Small Projects

Select seed in accordance with Section 1.2 of this specification. Using the seed specified in the seeding tables, the Contractor will create a seeding plan and determine all rates of application necessary to produce the required stand of grass and follow the application procedures as specified herein.

Select nutrients based on experience and past success. Soil samples, watering and any other section of this seeding specification can be used to obtain better results but are not required. If granular fertilizer and lime are used, sow seed within 24 hours following the application and preparation of the seedbed. Uniformly sow seed at the rate specified by the use of approved mechanical seed drills, rotary hand seeders, hydraulic equipment, or any other type of equipment that produces a uniform seed and nutrient application.

Permanent grassing for small projects does not require the application of mulch when the width of the seeding application is less than six (6) feet and seeding is compacted using a roll-packer or light roller. Compaction is not necessary if seeds are planted by mechanized seed drills that perform a compaction procedure. Track slopes inaccessible to compaction equipment prior to seeding. Stabilize slopes that cannot be tracked with the appropriate mulch.

1.3.0.2 Acceptance of Permanent Cover and Permanent Grassing for Small Projects

Before acceptance of permanent cover or permanent grassing for small projects, a uniform perennial vegetative cover with a density of 70% of each square yard of the seeded area is required by the Contractor. A well developed root system must be established to sufficiently survive dry periods and water shortages and be capable of reestablishment in the spring.

1.3.0.3 Protection of Structures

Temporary cover by see