

Disturbed Area Stabilization (With Temporary Seeding)

Ds2



DEFINITION
The establishment of temporary vegetative cover with fast growing seedlings for seasonal protection on disturbed or denuded areas.

- PURPOSE**
- To reduce runoff and sediment damage of down stream resources
 - To protect the soil surface from erosion
 - To improve wildlife habitat
 - To improve aesthetics
 - To improve silt, infiltration and aeration as well as organic matter for permanent plantings

REQUIREMENT FOR REGULATORY COMPLIANCE
Mulch or temporary grassing shall be applied to all exposed areas within 14 days of disturbance. Temporary grassing, instead of mulch, can be applied to rough graded areas that will be exposed for less than six months. If an area is expected to be undisturbed for longer than six months, permanent perennial vegetation shall be used. If optimum planting conditions for temporary grassing is lacking, mulch can be used as a singular erosion control device for up to six months but it shall be applied at the appropriate depth, anchored, and have a continuous 90% cover or greater of the soil surface. Refer to specification Ds1-Disturbed Area Stabilization (With Temporary Seeding).

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Seeding
Select a grass or grass-legume mixture suitable to the area and season of the year. Seed shall be applied uniformly by hand, cyclone seeder, drill, culti-packer-seeder, or hydraulic seeder (slurry including seed and fertilizer). Drill or culti-packer seeders should normally place seed one-quarter to one-half inch deep. Appropriate depth of planting is ten times the seed diameter. Soil should be "raked" lightly to cover seed with soil if seeded by hand. See Table 6-4.1

Mulching
Temporary vegetation can, in most cases, be established without the use of mulch, provided there is little to no erosion potential. However, the use of mulch can often accelerate and enhance germination and vegetation establishment. Mulch without seeding should be considered for short term protection. Refer to Ds1 - Disturbed Area Stabilization (With Mulching Only).

CONDITIONS
Temporary vegetative measures should be coordinated with permanent measures to assure economical and effective stabilization. Most types of temporary vegetation are ideal to use as companion crops until the permanent vegetation is established. Note: Some species of temporary vegetation are not appropriate for companion crop plantings because of their potential to out-compete the desired species (e.g., annual ryegrass). Contact NRCS or the local SWCD for more information.

SPECIFICATIONS
Grading and Shaping
Excessive water run-off shall be reduced by properly designed and installed erosion control practices such as closed drains, ditches, dikes, diversions, sediment barriers and others.

No shaping or grading is required if slopes can be stabilized by hand-seeded vegetation or if hydraulic seeding equipment is to be used.

Seedbed Preparation
When a hydraulic seeder is used, seedbed preparation is not required. When using conventional or hand-seeding, seedbed preparation is not required if the soil material is loose and not sealed by rainfall.

When soil has been sealed by rainfall or consists of smooth cut slopes, the soil shall be pitted, trenched or otherwise scarified to provide a place for seed to lodge and germinate.

Lime and Fertilizer
Agricultural lime is required unless soil tests indicate otherwise. Apply agricultural lime at a rate determined by soil test for pH. Quick acting lime should be incorporated to modify pH during the germination period. Bio stimulants should also be considered when there is less than 3% organic matter in the soil. Graded areas require lime application. Soils must be tested to determine required amounts of fertilizer and amendments. Fertilizer should be applied before land preparation and incorporated with a disk, ripper, or chisel. On slopes too steep for, or inaccessible to equipment, fertilizer shall be hydraulically applied, preferably in the first pass with seed and some hydraulic mulch, then topped with the remaining required application rate.

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Irrigation
During times of drought, water shall be applied at a rate not causing runoff and erosion. The soil shall be thoroughly wetted to a depth that will insure germination of the seed. Subsequent applications should be made when needed.

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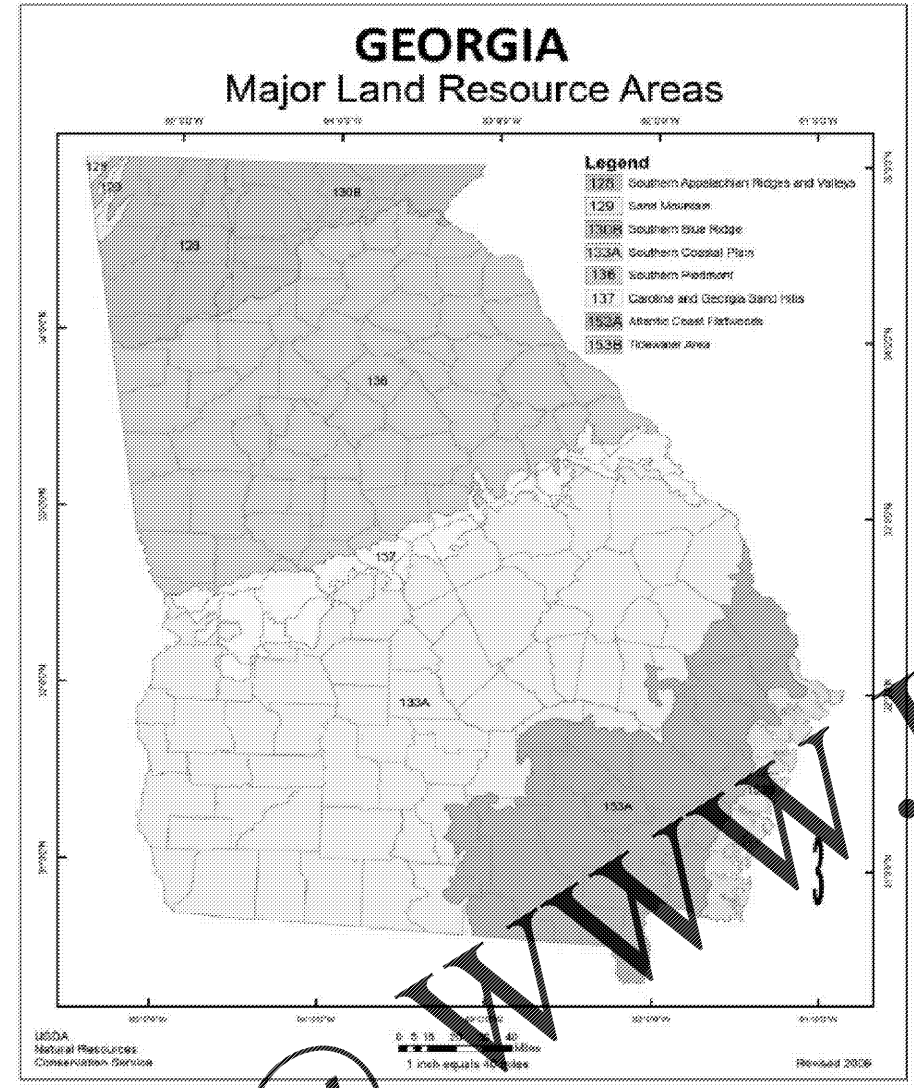


Figure 6-4.1

Species	Broadcast Rates Rate Per Acre ¹	Pure Live Seed (PLS) Per 1000 seed	Resource Area ²	Planting Dates by Resource Area												Remarks	
				J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
RYEGRASS ANNUAL <i>Lolium temulentum</i>	alone	3 bu. (144 lbs)	3.3 lbs	C													Use on lower part of Southern Coastal Plain and Atlantic Coastal Flatwoods only.
	in mixture	1/2 bu. (24 lbs)	0.6 lb														
WHEAT <i>Triticum aestivum</i>	alone	3 bu. (180 lbs)	4.1 lbs	M-L													15,000 seed per pound; Winter hardy.
	in mixture	1/2 bu. (30 lbs)	0.7 lb	P													

¹Temporary cover crops are very competitive and will crowd out perennials if seeded too heavily.
²Reduce seeding rates by 50% when drilled.
M-L represents the Mountain, Blue Ridge, and Ridges and Valleys MLRAs.
P represents the Southern Piedmont MLRA.
C represents Southern Coastal Plain, Sand Hills, Black Lands, and Atlantic Coast Flatwoods MLRAs (see Figure 6-4.1, p. 3-40)

Table 6-4.1 - Temporary Cover or Companion Cover Crops

Species	Broadcast Rates Rate Per Acre ¹	Pure Live Seed (PLS) Per 1000 seed	Resource Area ²	Planting Dates by Resource Area												Remarks	
				J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
BARLEY <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	alone	3 bu. (144 lbs)	3.3 lbs	M-L													14,000 seed per pound; Winter hardy. Use on productive soils.
	in mixture	1/2 bu. (24 lbs)	0.6 lb	P													
LESPEDeza ANNUAL <i>Lepidium sibiriacum</i>	alone	40 lbs	0.9 lb	M-L													200,000 seed per pound. May volunteer for several years. Use incident EL.
	in mixture	10 lbs	0.2 lb	P													
LOVEGRASS WEEPING <i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	alone	4 lbs	0.1 lb	M-L													1,500,000 seed per pound. May last for several years. Mix with Sorghum bicolor.
	in mixture	2 lbs	0.05 lb	P													
MILLET BROWNTOP <i>Pennisetum fasciculatum</i>	alone	1 lb	0.3 lb	M-L													137,000 seed per pound. Quick dense cover. Will provide extensive competition in mixtures if seeded at high rate.
	in mixture	1 lb	0.2 lb	P													

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				J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
MILLET PEARL <i>Pennisetum glaucum</i>	alone	50 lbs	1.1 lbs	M-L													85,000 seed per pound. Quick dense cover. May reach 5 feet in height. Not recommended for pastures.
	in mixture	1 lb	0.2 lb	P													
OATS <i>Avena sativa</i>	alone	4 bu. (128 lbs)	2.9 lbs	M-L													18,000 seed per pound. Use on productive soils. Not as winter hardy as rye or barley.
	in mixture	1 bu. (32 lbs)	0.7 lb	P													
RYE <i>Sorghum nutans</i>	alone	3 bu. (96 lbs)	3.9 lbs	M-L													18,000 seed per pound. Quick cover. Drought tolerant and winter hardy.
	in mixture	1/2 bu. (24 lbs)	0.6 lb	P													
RYEGRASS ANNUAL <i>Lolium temulentum</i>	alone	40 lbs	0.9 lb	M-L													237,000 seed per pound. Dense cover. Very competitive and is used to be used in mixtures.
	in mixture	10 lbs	0.2 lb	P													
SUDANGRASS <i>Sorghum sudanense</i>	alone	60 lbs	1.4 lbs	M-L													85,000 seed per pound. Good on roughy sites. Not recommended for pastures.
	in mixture	15 lbs	0.35 lb	P													



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REVISION HISTORY

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1	11/06/2019	ISSUE FOR PERMITS

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PROJ #	10040
ENGR NAME	BOGARD COLLENG
ISSUE DATE	11/06/2019
PROJ MGR	EF

ESPC DETAILS III
C06.6
SHEET NUMBER