Ds3

Disturbed Area Stabilization (With Permanent Vegetation)

DEFINITION

The planting of perennial vegetation such as trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, or legumes on exposed areas for final permanent stabilization.

Permanent perennial vegetation shall be used to achieve final stabilization.

PURPOSE

To protect the soil surface from erosion

To reduce damage from sediment and runoff to down-stream areas

To improve wildlife habitat and visual resources

To improve aesthetics

REQUIREMENT FOR REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

This practice shall be applied immediately to rough graded areas that will be undisturbed for longer than six months. This practice or sodding shall be applied immediately to all areas at final grade. **Final Stabilization** means that all soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed, and that for unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures and areas located outside the waste disposal limits of a landfill cell that has been certified by the GA EPD for waste disposal, 100% of the soil surface

is uniformly covered in permanent vegetation with a density of 70% or greater, or landscaped ac- cording to the Plan (uniformly covered with land- scaping materials in planned landscaped areas), or equivalent permanent stabilization measures.

Permanent vegetation shall consist of, planted trees, shrubs, perennial vines; or a crop of peren- nial vegetation appropriate for the region, such that within the growing season a 70% coverage by perennial vegetation shall be achieved. Final stabilization applies to each phase of construc- tion. For linear construction projects on land used for agricultural or silvicultural purposes, final stabilization may be accomplished by sta- bilizing the disturbed land for its agricultural or silvicultural use. Until this standard is satisfied and permanent control measures and facilities are operational, interim stabilization measures and temporary erosion and sedimentation control measures shall not be removed.

CONDITIONS

Permanent perennial vegetation is used to provide a protective cover for exposed areas including cuts, fills, dams, and other denuded areas.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

1. Use conventional planting methods where possible.
2. When mixed plantings are done during marginal planting periods, companion crops shall be used.
3. No-till planting is effective when planting is done following a summer or winter annual cover crop. Sericea lespedeza planted no-till into stands of rye is an excellent procedure.
4. Block sod provides immediate cover. It is especially effective in controlling erosion adjacent to concrete flumes and other struc- tures. Refer to Specification **Ds4-Disturbed Area Stabilization (With Sodding)**.
5. Irrigation should be used when the soil is dry or when summer plantings are done.
6. Low maintenance plants, as well as natives, should be used to ensure long-lasting erosion control.
7. Mowing should not be performed during the quail nesting season (May to September).
8. Wildlife plantings should be included in critical area plantings.

Wildlife Plantings

Commercially available plants beneficial to wildlife species include the following:

Mast Bearing Trees

Beech, Black Cherry, Blackgum, Chestnut, Chinkapin, Hackberry, Hickory, Honey Locust, Native Oak, Persimmon, Sawtooth Oak and Sweetgum.

All trees that produce nuts or fruits are favored by many game species. Hickory provides nuts used mainly by squirrels and bear.

Shrubs and Small Trees

Bayberry, Bicolor Lespedeza, Crabapple, Dog- wood, Huckleberry or Native Blueberry, Mountain Laurel, Native Holly, Red Cedar, Red Mulberry, Sumac, Wax Myrtle, Wild Plum and Blackberry.

Plant in patches without tall trees to develop stable shrub communities. All produce fruits used by many kinds of wildlife, except for lespedeza that produces seeds used by quail and songbirds.

Grasses, Legumes, Vines and Temporary Cover

Bahiagrass, Bermudagrass, Grass-Legume mixtures, Partridge Pea, Annual Lespedeza, Or- chardgrass (for mountains), Browntop Millet (for temporary cover), and Native grapes.

Provides herbaceous cover in clearings for a game bird brood-rearing habitat. Appropriate legumes such as vetches, clovers, and lespedezas may be mixed with grass, but they may die out after a few years.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

Grading and Shaping

Grading and shaping may not be required where hydraulic seeding and fertilizing equipment is to be used. Vertical banks shall be sloped to enable plant establishment.

When conventional seeding and fertilizing are to be done, grade and shape where feasible and practical, so that equipment can be used safely and efficiently during seedbed preparation, seeding, mulching and maintenance of the vegetation.

Concentrations of water that will cause excessive soil erosion shall be diverted to a safe outlet. Diversions and other treatment practices shall conform with the appropriate standards and specifications.

Lime and Fertilizer Rates and Analysis

Agricultural lime is required at the rate of one to two tons per acre unless soil tests indicate otherwise. Graded areas require lime application. If lime is applied within six months of planting permanent perennial vegetation, additional lime is not required. Agricultural lime shall be within the specifications of the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

Lime spread by conventional equipment shall be "ground limestone." Ground limestone is calcitic or dolomitic limestone ground so that 90 percent of the material will pass through a 10-mesh sieve, not less than 50 percent will pass through a 50-mesh sieve and not less than 25 percent will pass through a 100-mesh sieve.

Fast-acting lime spread by hydraulic seeding equipment should be "finely ground limestone" spanning from the 180 micron size to the 5 micron size. Finely ground limestone is calcitic or dolomitic limestone ground so that 95 percent of the material will pass through a 100-mesh sieve.

It is desirable to use dolomitic limestone in the Sand Hills, Southern Coastal Plain and Atlantic Coast Flatwoods MLRAs. (See Figure 6-4.1)

Agricultural lime is generally not required where only trees are planted.

Initial fertilization, nitrogen, topdressing, and maintenance fertilizer requirements for each species or combination of species are listed in Table 6-5.1.

Lime and Fertilizer Application

When *hydraulic seeding* equipment is used, the initial fertilizer shall be mixed with seed, innoculant (if needed), and wood cellulose or wood pulp fiber mulch and applied in a slurry. The innoculant, if needed, shall be mixed with the seed prior to being placed into the hydraulic seeder. The slurry mixture will be agitated during application to keep the ingredients thoroughly mixed. The mixture will be spread uniformly over the area within one hour after being placed in the hydroseeder.

Finely ground limestone can be applied in the mulch slurry or in combination with the top dressing.

When *conventional planting* is to be done, lime and fertilizer shall be applied uniformly in one of the following ways:

1. Apply before land preparation so that it will be mixed with the soil during seedbed preparation.
2. Mix with the soil used to fill the holes, distribute in furrows.
3. Broadcast after steep surfaces are scarified,pitted or trenched.
4. A fertilizer pellet shall be placed at root depth in the closing hole beside each pine tree seedling.

Plant Selection

Refer to Tables 6-4.1, 6-5.2, 6-5.3 and 6-5.4 for approved species. Species not listed shall be approved by the State Resource Conservationist of the Natural Resources Conservation Service before they are used.

Plants shall be selected on the basis of species characteristics, site and soil conditions, planned use and maintenance of the area; time of year of planting, method of planting; and the needs and desires of the land user.

Some perennial species are easily established and can be planted alone. Examples of these are Common Bermuda, Tall Fescue, and Weeping Lovegrass.

Other perennials, such as Bahia Grass and Seri- cea Lespedeza, are slow to become established and should be planted with another perennial spe- cies. The additional species will provide quick cover and ample soil protection until the target perennial species become established. For example, Com- mon seeding combinations are 1) Weeping Loveg- rass with Sericea Lespedeza (scarified) and 2) Tall Fescue with Sericea Lespedeza (unscarified).

Plant selection may also include annual compan- ion crops. Annual companion crops should be used only when the perennial species are not planted during their optimum planting period. A common mixture is Brown Top Millet with Common Bermuda in mid-summer. Care should be taken in select- ing companion crop species and seeding rates because annual crops will compete with perennial species for water, nutrients, and growing space. A high seeding rate of the companion crop may prevent the establishment of perennial species.

Ryegrass shall not be used in any seeding mixtures containing perennial species due to its ability to out-compete desired species chosen for permanent perennial cover.

Seed Quality

The term "pure live seed" is used to express the quality of seed and is not shown on the label. Pure live seed, PLS, is expressed as a percent- age of the seeds that are pure and will germi- nate. Information on percent germination and purity can be found on seed tags. PLS is deter- mined by multiplying the percent of pure seed with the percent of germination; i.e.,

(PLS = % germination x % purity)

EXAMPLE:

Common Bermuda seed 70% germination, 80% purity

PLS = 70% germination x 80% purity PLS = 56%

The percent of PLS helps you determine the amount of seed you need. If the seeding rate is 10 pounds PLS and the bulk seed is 56 % PLS, the bulk seeding rate is:

$$\frac{10 \text{ lbs. PLS/acre}}{56\% \text{ PLS}} = 17.9 \text{ lbs/acre}$$

You would need to plant 17.9 lbs/acre to provide 10 lbs/acre of pure live seed.

Seedbed Preparation

Seedbed preparation may not be required where hydraulic seeding and fertilizing equip- ment is to be used (but is strongly recommended for any seeding process, when possible). When conventional seeding is to be used, seedbed preparation will be done as follows:

Broadcast plantings

1. Tillage, at a minimum, shall adequately

   loosen the soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches; alleviate compaction; incorporate lime and fertilizer; smooth and firm the soil; allow for the proper placement of seed, sprigs, or plants; and allow for the anchoring of straw or hay mulch if a disk is to be used.
2. Tillage may be done with any suitable equipment.
3. Tillage should be done on the contour where feasible.
4. On slopes too steep for the safe operation of tillage equipment, the soil surface shall be pitted or trenched across the slope with appropriate hand tools to provide two places 6 to 8 inches apart in which seed may lodge and germinate. Hydraulic seeding may also be used.

Individual Plants

1. Where individual plants are to be set, the soil shall be prepared by excavating holes, opening furrows, or dibble planting.
2. For nursery stock plants, holes shall be large enough to accommodate roots without crowding.
3. Where pine seedlings are to be planted, subsoil under the row 36 inches deep on the contour four to six months prior to planting. Subsoiling should be done when the soil is dry, preferably in August or September.

Inoculants

All legume seed shall be inoculated with appropriate nitrogen-fixing bacteria. The inoculant shall be a pure culture prepared specifically for the seed species and used within the dates on the container.

A mixing medium recommended by the manufacturer shall be used to bond the inoculant to the seed. For conventional seeding, use twice the amount of inoculant recommended by the manufacturer. For hydraulic seeding, four times the amount of inoculant recommended by the manufacturer shall be used.

All inoculated seed shall be protected from the sun and high temperatures and shall be planted the same day inoculated. No inoculated seed shall remain in the hydroseeder longer than one hour.

Planting

Hydraulic Seeding

Mix the seed (inoculated if needed), fertilizer, and wood cellulose or wood pulp fiber mulch with water and apply in a slurry uniformly over the area to be treated. Apply within one hour after the mixture is made.

Conventional Seeding

Seeding will be done on a freshly prepared and firmed seedbed. For broadcast planting, use a culti-packer-seeder, drill, rotary seeder, other mechanical seeder, or hand seeding to distribute the seed uniformly over the area to be treated.

Cover the seed lightly with 1/8 to 1/4 inch of soil for small seed and 1/2 to 1 inch for large seed when using a cultipacker or other suitable equipment.

No-Till Seeding

No-till seeding is permissible into annual cov- er crops when planting is done following maturity of the cover crop or if the temporary cover stand is sparse enough to allow adequate growth of the permanent (perennial) species. No-till seed- ing shall be done with appropriate no-till seeding equipment. The seed must be uniformly distrib- uted and planted at the proper depth.

Individual Plants

Shrubs, vines and sprigs may be planted with appropriate planters or hand tools. Pine trees shall be planted manually in the subsoil furrow. Each plant shall be set in a manner that will avoid crowding the roots.

Nursery stock plants shall be planted at the same depth or slightly deeper than they grew at the nursery. The tips of vines and sprigs must be at or slightly above the ground surface.

Where individual holes are dug, fertilizer shall be placed in the bottom of the hole, two inches of soil shall be added and the plant shall be set in the hole.

Mulching

Mulch is required for all permanent vegeta- tion applications. Mulch applied to seeded areas shall achieve 75% to 100% soil cover. When selecting a mulch, design professionals should consider the mulch's functional longevity, vegeta- tion establishment enhancement, and erosion control effectiveness. Select the mulching mate- rial from the following and apply as indicated:

1. *Dry straw* or *dry hay* of good quality and free of weed seeds can be used. Dry straw shall be applied at the rate of 2 tons per acre. Dry hay shall be applied at a rate of 2 1/2 tons per acre.
2. *Wood cellulose mulch* or *wood pulp fiber* shall be used with hydraulic seeding. It shall be applied at the rate of 500 pounds per acre. Dry straw or dry hay shall be applied (at the rate indicated above) after hydraulic seeding.
3. One thousand pounds of *wood cellulose* or *wood pulp fiber*, which includes a tackifier, shall be used with hydraulic seeding on slopes 3/4:1 or steeper.
4. *Sericea Lespedeza* hay containing mature seed shall be applied at a rate of three tons per acre.
5. *Pine straw* or *pine bark* shall be applied at a thickness of 3 inches for bedding purposes. Other suitable materials in sufficient quantity may be used where ornamentals or other ground covers are planted. This is not appropriate for seeded areas.
6. When using temporary erosion control blankets or block sod, mulch is not required.
7. *Bituminous treated roving* may be applied on planted areas, slopes, in ditches or dry water- ways to prevent erosion. Bituminous treated roving shall be applied within 24 hours after an area has been planted. Application rates and materials must meet Georgia Department of Transportation specifications.

Wood cellulose and wood pulp fibers shall not contain germination or growth inhibiting factors. They shall be evenly dispersed when agitated in water. The fibers shall contain a dye to allow visual metering and aid in uniform application during seeding.

Applying Mulch

Straw or hay mulch will be spread uniformly within 24 hours after seeding and/or planting. The mulch may be spread by blower-type spreading equipment, other spreading equipment or by hand. Mulch shall be applied to cover 75% of the soil surface.

Wood cellulose or wood fiber mulch shall be applied uniformly with hydraulic seeding equipment.

Anchoring Mulch

Anchor straw or hay mulch immediately after application by one of the following methods:

1. *Hay and straw* mulch shall be pressed into the soil immediately after the mulch is spread. A special "packer disk"' or disk har- row with the disks set straight may be used. The disks may be smooth or serrated and should be 20 inches or more in diameter and 8 to 12 inches apart. The edges of the disks shall be dull enough to press the mulch into the ground without cutting it, leaving much of it in an erect position. Mulch shall not be plowed into the soil.
2. *Synthetic tackifiers, binders or hydraulic mulch specifically designed to tack straw*, shall be applied in conjunction with or immediately after the mulch is spread. Synthetic tackifiers shall be mixed and applied according to manufacturer's specifications. All tackifiers, binders or hydraulic mulch specifically designed to tack straw should be verified nontoxic through EPA 2021.0 testing. Refer to **Tackifiers-Tac**
3. *Rye or wheat* can be included with Fall and Winter plantings to stabilize the mulch. They shall be applied at a rate of one-quarter to one-half bushel per acre.
4. *Plastic mesh or netting* with mesh no larger than one inch by one inch may be needed to anchor straw or hay mulch on unstable soils and concentrated flow areas. These materials shall be installed and anchored according to manufacturer's specifications.

Bedding Material

Mulch is used as a bedding material to con- serve moisture and control weeds in nurseries, ornamental beds, around shrubs, and on bare areas on lawns.

Material	Depth
Grain straw	4" to 6"
Grass Hay	4" to 6"
Pine needles	3" to 5"
Wood waste	4" to 6"

Irrigation

Irrigation will be applied at a rate that will not cause runoff.

Topdressing

Topdressing will be applied on all temporary and permanent (perennial) species planted alone or in mixtures with other species. Recommended rates of application are listed in Table 6-5.1.

Second Year and Maintenance Fertilization

Second year fertilizer rates and maintenance fertilizer rates are listed in Table 6-5.1.

Lime Maintenance Application

Apply one ton of agricultural lime every 4 to 6 years or as indicated by soil tests. Soil tests can be conducted to determine more accurate requirements, if desired.

Use and Management

Mow Sericea Lespedeza only after frost to ensure that the seeds are mature. Mow between November and March.

Bermudagrass, Bahiagrass and Tall Fescue may be mowed as desired. Maintain at least 6 inches of top growth under any use and management. Moderate use of top growth is beneficial after establishment.

Exclude traffic until the plants are well established. Because of the quail nesting season, mowing should not take place between May and September.

Table 6-5.1. Fertilizer Requirements

TYPE OF SPECIES	YEAR	ANALYSIS OR EQUIVALENT N-P-K	RATE	N TOP DRESSING RATE
1. Cool season grasses	First Second Maintenance	6-12-12 6-12-12 10-10-10	1500 lbs./ac. 1000 lbs./ac. 400 lbs./ac.	50-100 lbs./ac. 1/2/ 30
2. Cool season grasses and legumes	First Second Maintenance	6-12-12 0-10-10 0-10-10	1500 lbs./ac. 1000 lbs./ac. 400 lbs./ac.	0-50 lbs./ac. 1/ ....
3. Ground covers	First Second Maintenance	10-10-10 10-10-10 10-10-10	1300 lbs./ac. 3/ 1300 lbs./ac. 3/ 1100 lbs./ac.	....
4. Pine seedlings	First	20-10-5	one 21-gram pellet per seedling placed in the closing hole	....
5. Shrub Lespedeza	First Maintenance	0-10-10 0-10-10	700 lbs./ac. 700 lbs./ac. 4/	....
6. Temporary cover crops seeded alone	First	10-10-10	500 lbs./ac.	30 lbs./ac. 5/
7. Warm season grasses	First Second Maintenance	6-12-12 6-12-12 10-10-10	1500 lbs./ac. 800 lbs./ac. 400 lbs./ac.	50-100 lbs./ac. 2/6/ 50-100 lbs./ac. 2/ 30 lbs./ac.
8. Warm season grasses and legumes	First Second Maintenance	6-12-12 0-10-10 0-10-10	1500 lbs./ac. 1000 lbs./ac. 400 lbs./ac.	50 lbs./ac./6/

1/ Apply in spring following seeding.
2/ Apply in split applications when high rates are used.
3/ Apply in 3 split applications.
4/ Apply when plants are pruned.
5/ Apply to grass species only.
6/ Apply when plants grow to a height of 2 to 4 inches.

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Table 6-5.2- Permanent Cover Crops

PLANT, PLANTING RATE, AND PLANTING DATE FOR PERMANENT COVER [1]

(Planting Dates by Resource Area: Solid lines indicate optimum dates; dotted lines indicate permissible but marginal dates. Months: J F M A M J J A S O N D)

Species	Broadcast Rates: Rate Per Acre[2]	Pure Live Seed (PLS) Per 1000 sqft	Resource Area[3]	Remarks
BAHIA, PENSACOLA *Paspalum notatum*				
alone or with temporary cover	60 lbs	1.4 lbs	P	166,000 seed per pound. Low growing. Sod forming. Slow to establish. Plant with a companion crop. Will spread into bermuda pastures and lawns. Mix with Sericea lespedeza or weeping lovegrass.
with other perennials	30 lbs	0.7 lb	C	
BAHIA, WILMINGTON *Paspalum notatum*				
alone or with temporary cover	60 lbs	1.4 lb	M-L	
with other perennials	30 lbs	0.7 lb	P	Same as above.
BERMUDA, COMMON *Cynodon dactylon*				
Hulled seed			P	
alone	10 lbs	0.2 lb	C	1,787,000 seed per pound. Quick cover. Low growing and sod forming. Full sun. Good for athletic fields.
with other perennials	6 lbs	0.7 lb		
BERMUDA, COMMON *Cynodon dactylon*				
Unhulled seed				
with temporary cover	10 lbs	0.2 lb	P	Plant with winter annuals.
with other perennials	6 lbs	0.1 lb	C	Plant with Tall Fescue.

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Table 6-5.2- Permanent Cover Crops

PLANT, PLANTING RATE, AND PLANTING DATE FOR PERMANENT COVER [1]

Species	Broadcast Rates: Rate Per Acre[2]	Pure Live Seed (PLS) Per 1000 sqft	Resource Area[3]	Remarks
BERMUDA SPRIGS *Cynodon dactylon*				
Coastal, Common, Midland or Tift 44	40 cu ft. or sod plugs 3' x3'	0.9 cu ft.	M-L	A cubic foot contains approximately 650 sprigs. A bushel contains 1.25 cubic feet or approximately 800 sprigs.
Coastal, Common, or Tift 44			P C	Same as above.
Tift 78			C	Southern Coastal Plain only
CENTIPEDE *Eremochloa ophiuroides*				
	Block sod only		P C	Drought tolerant. Full sun or partial shade. Effective adjacent to concrete and in concentrated flow areas. Irrigation is needed until fully established. Do not plant near pastures. Winterhardy as far as north Athens and Atlanta
CROWNVETCH *Coronilla varia*				
with winter annuals or cool season grasses	15 lbs	0.3 lb	M-L P	100,000 seed per pound. Dense growth. Drought tolerant and fire resistant. Attractive rose, pink and white blossoms spring to late fall. Mix with 30 pounds of Tall fescue or 15 pounds of rye. Inoculate see with M inoculant. Use from North Atlanta and Northward.

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Table 6-5.2- Permanent Cover Crops

PLANT, PLANTING RATE, AND PLANTING DATE FOR PERMANENT COVER [1]

Species	Broadcast Rates: Rate Per Acre[2]	Pure Live Seed (PLS) Per 1000 sqft	Resource Area[3]	Remarks
FESCUE, TALL *Festuca arundinacea*				
alone	50 lbs	1.1 lb	M-L P	227,000 seed per pound. Use alone only on better sites. Mix with perennial lespedeza or Crownvetch. Apply topdressing in spring following fall plantings. Not for heavy use areas or athletic fields.
with other perennials	30 lbs	0.7 lb		
KUDZU *Pueraria thunbergiana*				
Plants or crowns	3' - 7' apart		ALL	Rapid and vigorous growth. Excellent in gully erosion control. Will climb. Good livestock forage.
LESPEDEZA SERICEA *Lespedeza cuneata*				
scarified	60 lbs	1.4 lb	M-L P C	350,000 seed per pound. Widely adapted. Low maintenace. Mix with Weeping lovegrass, Common bermuda, bahia, or tall fescue. Takes 2 to 3 years to become fully established. Excellent on roadbanks. Inoculate seed with EL inoculant.
unscarified	75 lbs	1.7 lb	M-L P C	Mix with Tall fescue or winter annuals.
seed- bearing hay	3 tons	1338 lbs.	M-L P C	Cut when seed mixture is mature, but before, it shatters. Add Tall fescue or winter annuals.

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NRCS ORIGINAL SUBMITTAL: 10/1/2020

DESIGN PROFESSIONAL'S CREDENTIALS:

ENGINEER'S NAME (PRINTED):	TRAVIS BURKE, PE
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GSWCC LEVEL II CERTIFICATION NUMBER:	8134

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RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION

REVISIONS:

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR
PIPE MAKER'S CANAL IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATED IN POOLER, GA
PREPARED FOR CITY OF POOLER

JOB NUMBER:	20-265
DATE:	06/05/20
DRAWN BY:	RAR
CHECKED BY:	TGB
SCALE:	AS NOTED

EROSION CONTROL DETAILS

SHEET:

ES7.7