



STORAGE FACILITY – NURSERY SUBSTRATE

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

FL782JS

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

April 2007



Definition

A facility that provides storage for nursery pre-mixed substrate and/or material used to mix substrate.

Purpose

This practice may be applied as part of a resource management system to decrease non-point source pollution of surface and groundwater resources by temporarily storing substrate and/or substrate material in an environmentally safe and cost effective manner.

Where used

This facility is used where substrate is mixed and/or stored for potting plants where the substrate is exposed to rainfall that causes leachate to move by leaching or runoff to surface or ground water.

Resource Management System

Storage facilities are normally established as part of a resource management system to address the soil, water, air, plant, and animal needs and the owner's objectives.

They are usually an integral part of the nutrient management section of a resource management plan.

They are used to manage the material used to mix and pot nursery plants. This material when mixed to the desired proportions contains organic, inorganic material as well as controlled release fertilizer.

Considerations

Long-term storage for periods of time greater than 30 days can be accomplished using permanent structures or through a combination of permanent and temporary storage practices.

Temporary storage areas may require land shaping, access roads, diversions, and such other practices as needed to protect the resource base.

Proper construction of the pad and maintenance of the covering should prevent leachate or percolation water through the stack and into the groundwater. The additional runoff from the covering should be considered in the water management around the stack.

The storage facility should be located as close to the potting and transfer station as possible. Consider traffic flow for delivery and utilization.

To facilitate the removal of substrate from the storage area and prevent disturbance to the surrounding area, consider using a permanent pad such as concrete.

The storage facility should have an overall positive impact on water quality by storing substrate material and prevent potential polluted runoff and leachate from entering groundwater and surface water.



Plans and Specification

Plans and specifications are prepared in accordance with the Florida NRCS conservation practice standard Storage Facility – Nursery Substrate, Code 782. Site-specific requirements are listed on the specification sheet. Additional provisions are entered on the job sketch sheet.

The facility will be large enough to accommodate the volume of material used in the mixing and potting process.

Plans and specifications may include construction plans, photographs, drawings, job sheets, construction specifications, narrative statements in conservation plans, and other similar documents.

Operation and maintenance

The substrate storage facility should be inspected periodically to ensure that all components are operating as planned.

Soil pads may require reconstructing if soil materials are inadvertently removed during the substrate removal process. The plastic or polyethylene covering will deteriorate over time and need to be replaced. The pad, cover, and adjacent area shall be inspected after each major storm event. Needed repairs shall be completed promptly.

Where geomembranes are used, care must be taken during removal of the substrate to prevent damage to the geomembrane.

The facility will be covered when not being used.

Concrete pads shall be checked for cracks after removal of substrate. Cracks shall be repaired immediately.

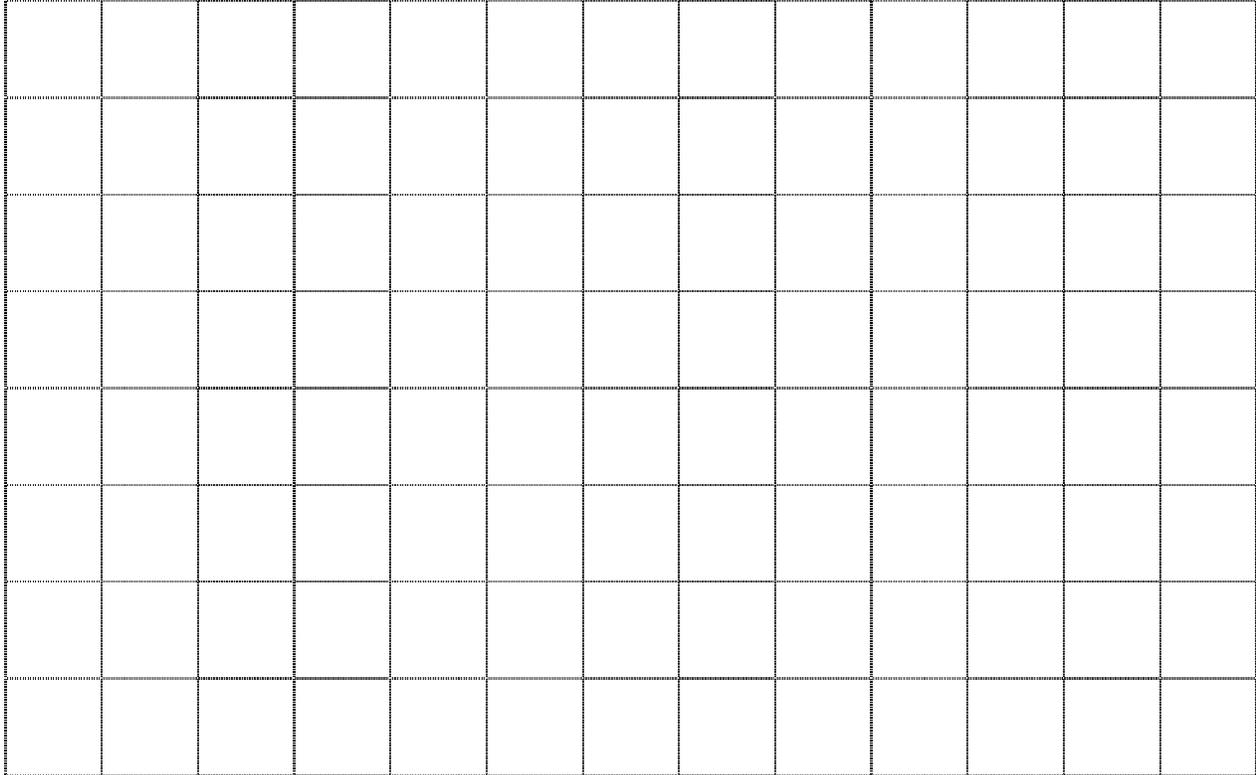
Areas disturbed as a result of removing the substrate shall be vegetated immediately.

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If needed, an aerial view or a location view of the nursery substrate storage facility location(s) can be shown below (or attached or refer to appropriate plan map). Other relevant information, such as complementary practices, adjacent field or tract conditions, and sensitive areas should be shown.

Scale 1" = _____ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size = 1/2" by 1/2")



Operation and Maintenance:		
Inspected periodically to ensure that all components are operating as planned.		
Reconstruct soil pads if soil materials are inadvertently removed during the substrate removal process.		
The plastic or polyethylene covering will deteriorate over time and need to be replaced.		
Inspect pad, cover, and adjacent area after each major storm event. Complete needed repairs promptly.		
Where geomembranes are used, take care during removal of the substrate to not damage the geomembrane.		
Concrete pads shall be checked for cracks after removal of substrate. Cracks shall be repaired immediately.		
Areas disturbed as a result of removing the substrate shall be vegetated immediately.		
Maintain the area surrounding the field storage area in such a manner to prevent ponding of water and to ensure runoff is diverted from the pad.		

Certification: This practice meets NRCS standards and specifications.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature of authorized conservationist:	Date	Date