

Construction Specification 706 – Seeding and Mulching

1. Scope

The work shall consist of seeding and mulching to permanent cover all disturbed areas as specified.

2. Materials

Fertilizer and Lime- Lime shall be standard ground agriculture limestone meeting the current requirements of the State Department of Agriculture. Fertilizer shall be a commercial grade fertilizer and meet the standard for grade and quality specified by West Virginia state laws.

Seed-The seed shall conform to the current rules and regulations of West Virginia, including the State Department of Agriculture standards for purity and germination. Legume seed shall be inoculated in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

Mulch-The mulch shall consist of cereal grains or hay. The mulch material shall be air-dry, reasonably light in color, and be free of noxious weeds. The mulch material shall not be musty, moldy, or otherwise of low quality.

3. Seedbed Preparation

The area to be seeded shall be dressed to a smooth, firm surface. After the area has been brought to grade, the seedbed shall be prepared immediately prior to seeding. Lime and fertilizer shall be applied at the specified rate and mixed with the soil by tilling to a depth of 3 inches. Tilling shall be accomplished by means of a disk harrow or similar tool approved by the NRCS representative. Clods, stones, and foreign material that will interfere with mowing shall be removed.

On slopes steeper than 3:1 (3 feet horizontal to 1 foot vertical), the 3-inch minimum depth of seedbed preparation is not required; however, the soil must be prepared by hand methods by scarifying to provide a rough surface so that broadcast seed will remain in place and to ensure sufficient loose material to provide adequate seed cover.

The contractor shall suspend seedbed preparation when soil conditions are not suitable for the preparation of a satisfactory seedbed, as determined by the NRCS representative.

4. Application of Materials

Fertilizer and lime shall be uniformly spread and incorporated into the soil immediately following surface application. Seeding shall be accomplished within two (2) days after final grading is completed and approved. Seed shall be broadcast uniformly on the prepared seedbed. Mulch material shall be applied to areas seeded no later than two (2) working days after seeding has been performed. Mulch shall be applied uniformly to the designated areas. Material application rates shall be as specified in this specification, as shown on the drawings or as determined by the NRCS representative.

5. Application Conditions

Permissible seeding times and soil conditions will be determined by the NRCS representative.

6. Application Rates

In lieu of soil test the following rates shall apply:

Lime – Apply agriculture lime at a minimum rate of 3 tons per acre, or 150 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

Fertilizer- Fertilizer application rate shall be as follows:

<u>Nutrient</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Nitrogen (N)	40 pounds per acre
Phosphorous (P)	80 pounds per acre
Potassium (K)	80 pounds per acre

The required application can be met by applying material having an analysis of 10-20-20 at the rate of 400 pounds per acre or 10 pounds per 1,000 square feet unless noted otherwise on the drawings.

Mulch- Apply clean hay or straw at a rate of 2 to 2 ½ tons per acre or 90 to 115 pounds per 1,000 square feet.

Seed- Seed type and application rate shall be as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Rate</u>
_____	_____ pounds per acre
_____	_____ pounds per acre