

# SOILS

## PART 1 - GENERAL

### 1.01 Summary

- A. This Section includes requirements for soils utilized in landscape work.
- B. Quality Assurance: Samples of proposed soils and manufacturer's guaranteed analysis shall be submitted prior to acceptance of delivery of new topsoil. Test reports indicating compliance with specifications shall be required for existing materials scheduled to remain. Existing soils shall be replaced where test reports indicate unsatisfactory conditions.

### 1.02 Submittals - Samples

- A. Submit samples and manufacturer's guaranteed analysis of the following items:
  - 1. Topsoil: provide min. (5) lbs. sample of actual soil proposed for use.
  - 2. Soil Analysis: provide testing agency report indicating:
    - a. acceptable pH factor
    - b. plasticity index
    - c. % organic matter
    - d. gradation
    - e. PPM of soluble salts
  - 3. Samples from each proposed source shall be provided for FSU Grounds review minimum (10) days prior to anticipated delivery to site. Written acceptance/rejection for incorporation into the project shall be provided by the University within (7) days.
- B. Installed soils shall match approved samples.

## PART 2 - MATERIALS

### 2.01 Topsoil

- A. Topsoil shall be fertile, friable soil, obtained from well-drained arable land, and shall be free from nut grass, refuse, roots,

heavy clay, clods, noxious weeds or any other material toxic to plant growth.

- B. pH factor: shall be min. 5.5 and no greater than 7.0.
- C. Soluble salts: shall not exceed 1500 PPM.
- D. Plasticity index: shall be min. 3 and no greater than 15.
- E. Organic matter: approx. 1-1/2% by dry weight.
- F. Gradation:

<u>Sieve size</u>	<u>Percent Passing</u>
1"	100
1/2"	95-100
#4	90-100
#10	70-100
#200	15-70

## **2.02 Planting operations backfill mixture**

- A. **Clay Loam:**
  - 1. 1/3 max. organic matter from "Canadian Sphagnum Moss", "Florida Peat", "Mushroom Compost" or "Nitrolized Mulch".
  - 2. 2/3 native soil.
- B. **Sandy Loam:**
  - 1. 1/3 max. organic matter from "Canadian Sphagnum Moss", "Florida Peat", or "Mushroom Compost".
  - 2. 2/3 native soil.

## **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

**3.01** Soil replacement or amendment shall not begin without written approval by FSU Grounds, coordinated through the Project Manager.

**3.02** Soils shall be mixed thoroughly, leaving no layers of soil amendments or clods of soil. For mass planting, till entire bed with amendment 8"-12" deep.

**3.03** For sod installation, cultivate the area by roto-tilling to a depth of 8 inches and incorporate any amendments required by the soil tests.

**3.04** Remove all debris, such as roots, wood, large clods, concrete, rocks, etc.

**3.05** Complete final grading and smoothing by raking. Be sure to slope soil away from buildings to prevent drainage problems. Roll and water graded area to settle and firm the surface. Add additional soil to any low areas.

**END OF SECTION**