

Section 31 25 14.13 – Hydraulically-Applied Erosion Control: High Performance-Flexible Growth Medium

GENERAL

1.01 SUMMARY

- A. This section specifies a hydraulically-applied, 100% biodegradable, High Performance-Flexible Growth Medium (HP-FGM) that is manufactured in the United States and is composed of 100% recycled thermally refined (within a pressure vessel) wood fibers, crimped interlocking man-made biodegradable fibers, mineral activators, naturally derived crosslinked biopolymers and water absorbents. The HP-FGM is phytosanitized, free from plastic netting, requires no curing period and upon application forms an intimate bond with the soil surface to create a continuous, porous, absorbent and flexible erosion resistant blanket that allows for rapid germination and accelerated plant growth
- B. Related Sections: Other Specification Sections, which directly relate to the work of this Section include, but are not limited to the following:
 - 1. *Section 01 57 00 – Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control*
 - 2. *Section 31 00 00 – Earthwork*
 - 3. *Section 31 91 00 – Planting Preparation*
 - 4. *Section 32 92 00 – Turf and Grasses*

1.02 SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data: Submit manufacturer's product data and installation instructions. Include required substrate preparation, list of materials and application rate.
- B. Certifications: Manufacturer shall submit a letter of certification that the product meets or exceeds all technical and packaging requirements.

1.03 DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING

- A. Deliver materials and products in UV and weather-resistant factory labeled packages. Store and handle in strict compliance with manufacturer's instructions and recommendations. Protect from damage, weather, excessive temperatures and construction operations.

PRODUCTS

2.01 ACCEPTABLE MANUFACTURER

- A. PROFILE Products LLC
750 Lake Cook Road – Suite 440
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
800-366-1180 (Fax 847-215-0577)
www.profileproducts.com

2.02 MATERIALS

- A. The HP-FGM shall be Flexterra® HP-FGM and conform to the following property values when uniformly applied at a rate of 3500 pounds per acre (3900 kilograms/hectare) under laboratory conditions.

Property	Test Method	Req. Value (English)	Req. Value (SI)
Physical			
Mass Per Unit Area	ASTM D6566 ¹	12 oz/yd ² minimum	407 g/m ² minimum
Thickness	ASTM D6525 ¹	0.22 inch minimum	5.6 mm. minimum
Wet Bond Strength	ASTM D6818 ¹	9 lb/ft	131 N/m
Ground Cover	ASTM D6567 ¹	99% minimum	99% minimum
Water Holding Capacity	ASTM D7367	1700% minimum	1700% minimum
Material Color	Observed	Green	Green
Performance			
Cover Factor ²	Large Scale Testing ⁴	0.01 maximum	0.01 maximum
% Effectiveness ³	Large Scale Testing ⁴	99 % minimum	99 % minimum
Cure time	Observed	0 - 2 hours	0 - 2 hours
Vegetation Establishment	ASTM D7322 ¹	800 % minimum	800 % minimum
Yield ⁵	Calculated	2.6 minimum	2245 minimum
Kinetic Energy Absorption Potential ⁶	Calculated	2.0 minimum	734 minimum
Environmental			
Functional Longevity ⁷	ASTM D5338	Up to 18 months	Up to 18 months
Ecotoxicity	EPA 2021.0	96-hr LC50 > 100%	96-hr LC50 > 100%
Effluent Turbidity	Large Scale Testing ⁴	100 NTU maximum	100 NTU maximum
Biodegradability	ASTM D5338	100% minimum	100% minimum

1. ASTM test methods developed for Rolled Erosion Control Products and have been modified to accommodate Hydraulically-Applied Erosion Control Products.

2. Cover Factor is calculated as soil loss ratio of treated surface versus an untreated control surface.

3. % Effectiveness = One minus Cover Factor multiplied by 100%.

4. Large scale testing conducted at Utah Water Research Laboratory. For specific testing information please contact a Profile technical service representative at 866-325-6262.

5. Yield = (Mass per Unit Area)*(Thickness)*(Ground Cover Percentage).

6. Kinetic Energy Absorption Potential = (Wet Bond Strength)*(Thickness)

7. Functional Longevity is the estimated time period, based upon ASTM D5338 testing and field observations, that a material can be anticipated to provide erosion control and agronomic benefits as influenced by composition, as well as site-specific conditions, including; but not limited to – temperature, moisture, light conditions, soils, biological activity, vegetative establishment and other environmental factors.

2.03 COMPOSITION

- A. All components of the HP-FGM shall be pre-packaged by the Manufacturer to assure both material performance and compliance with the following values. No chemical additives with the exception of fertilizer, soil pH modifiers, extended-term dyes and biostimulant materials should be added to this product.

1. Thermally Processed (within a pressure vessel) Wood Fiber – 80% ± 3%
 - Heated to a temperature greater than 380 degrees Fahrenheit (193 degrees Celsius) for 5 minutes at a pressure greater than 50 psi (345 kPa)
- Crosslinked Biopolymers and Water Absorbents – 10% ± 1%
- Crimped, Man-made Biodegradable Interlocking Fibers – 5% ± 1%
- Micro-Pore Granules – 5% ± 1%

2.04 PACKAGING

- A. Bags: Net Weight – 50 lb, UV and weather-resistant plastic film
 Pallets: Weather-proof, stretch-wrapped with UV resistant pallet cover
 Pallet Quantity: 40 bags/pallet or 1 ton/pallet

EXECUTION

3.01 SUBSTRATE AND SEEDBED PREPARATION

- A. Examine substrates and conditions where materials will be applied. Apply product to geotechnically stable slopes that have been designed and constructed to divert runoff away from the face of the slope. Do not proceed with installation until satisfactory conditions are established.
- B. Depending upon project sequencing and intended application, prepare seedbed in compliance with other specifications under Section 1.01 B

3.02 INSTALLATION

- A. Strictly comply with equipment manufacturer's installation instructions and recommendations. Use approved hydro-spraying machines with fan-type nozzle (50-degree tip). To achieve optimum soil surface coverage, apply HP-FGM from opposing directions to soil surface. Rough surfaces (rocky terrain, cat tracks and ripped soils) may require higher application rates to achieve 100% cover. Slope interruption devices or water diversion techniques are recommended when slope lengths exceed 100 feet (30 m). Maximum slope length is for product applications on a 3H:1V slope. For application on steeper slopes, slope interruption lengths may need to be decreased based on actual site conditions. Not recommended for channels or areas with concentrated water flow. This product may be applied on saturated soils and does not require a curing period to be effective. No chemical additives with the exception of fertilizer, liming and biostimulant materials should be added to this product.
- B. For Erosion Control and Revegetation: To ensure proper application rates, measure and stake area. For maximum performance, apply HP-FGM in a two-step process*:
 - 1. *Step One: Apply fertilizer with specified prescriptive agronomic formulations and 50% of seed with a small amount of HP-FGM for visual metering.*
 - 2. *Step Two: Mix balance of seed and apply HP-FGM at a rate of 50 lb per 125 gallons (23 kg/475 liters) of water over freshly seeded surfaces. Confirm loading rates with equipment manufacturer. Do not leave seeded surfaces unprotected, especially if precipitation is imminent.*

**Depending upon site conditions HP-FGM may be applied in a one-step process where all components may be mixed together in single tank loads. Consult with Manufacturer for further details.*

Best results and more rapid curing are achieved at temperatures exceeding 60°F (15°C). Curing times may be accelerated in high temperature, low humidity conditions with product applied on dry soils.

Over-application of product may inhibit germination and plant growth.

- C. Mixing: A mechanically agitated hydraulic-application machine is strongly recommended:
 - 1. *Fill 1/3 of mechanically agitated hydroseeder with water. Turn pump on for 15 seconds and purge and pre-wet lines. Turn pump off.*
 - 2. *Turn agitator on and load low density materials first (i.e. seed).*
 - 3. *Continue slowly filling tank with water while loading fiber matrix into tank.*
 - 4. *Consult application and loading charts to determine number of bags to be added for desired area and application rate. Mix at a rate of 50 lb of HP-FGM per 125 gallons (23 kg/475 liters). Contact Equipment manufacturer to confirm optimum mixing rates.*
 - 5. *All HP-FGM should be completely loaded before water level reaches 75% of the top of tank.*
 - 6. *Top off with water and mix until all fiber is fully broken apart and hydrated (minimum of 10 minutes — increase mixing time when applying in cold conditions). This is very important to fully activate the bonding additives and to obtain proper viscosity.*
 - 7. *Add fertilizer*
 - 8. *Shut off recirculation valve to minimize potential for air entrainment within the slurry.*
 - 9. *Slow down agitator and start applying with a 50-degree fan tip nozzle.*
 - 10. *Spray in opposing directions for maximum soil coverage.*

- D. Application Rates: These application rates are for standard conditions. Designers may wish to reduce rates to encourage faster vegetation establishment or may need to increase application rates on rough surfaces.

Slope Gradient / Condition	English	SI
$\leq 4H$ to $1V$	2500 lb/ac	2800 kg/ha
$> 4H$ to $1V$ and $\leq 3H$ to $1V$	3000 lb/ac	3400 kg/ha
$\geq 3H$ to $1V$ and $\leq 2H$ to $1V$	3500 lb/ac	3900 kg/ha
$> 2H$ to $1V$ and $\leq 1H$ to $1V$	4000 lb/ac	4500 kg/ha
$> 1H$ to $1V$	4500 lb/ac	5100 kg/ha
Below ECB or TRM	1500 lb/ac	1700 kg/ha
As infill for TRM*	3500 lb/ac	3900 kg/ha

*Use only approved and tested TRMs to create the GreenArmor™ System

3.03 CLEANING AND PROTECTION

- A. After application, thoroughly flush the tank, pumps and hoses to remove all material. Wash all material from the exterior of the machine and remove any slurry spills. Once dry, material will be more difficult to remove.
- B. Clean spills promptly. Advise owner of methods for protection of treated areas. Do not allow treated areas to be trafficked or subjected to grazing.

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