

## **Section 625 Topsoil and Salvaged Topsoil**

### **625.1 Description**

- (1) This section describes furnishing, placing, spreading, and finishing humus-bearing soil, adapted to sustain plant life, commonly known as topsoil, from locations the contractor furnishes beyond the limits of the right of way.
- (2) This section also describes removing topsoil from the sites of proposed roadway excavations and embankments in amounts and depths available and necessary to cover the work slopes. This work also includes reclamation, placing, spreading, and finishing of this topsoil.

### **625.2 Materials**

- (1) Topsoil consists of loam, sandy loam, silt loam, silty clay loam, or clay loam humus-bearing soils adapted to sustain plant life, and ensure this topsoil is in a Ph range of 6.0 to 7.0.
- (2) Salvaged topsoil consists of the loam, sandy loam, silt loam, silty clay loam or clay loam humus-bearing soils available from overlying portions of areas to be occupied by the completed roadway.

### **625.3 Construction**

#### **625.3.1 Preparing the Roadway for Topsoil**

- (1) Undercut or underfill all areas designated to receive topsoil to a degree that if covered to the required depth with topsoil the finished work conforms to the required lines, grades, slopes and cross sections the plans and drawings show.

#### **625.3.2 Processing Topsoil or Salvaged Topsoil**

- (1) Mow topsoil procurement areas to a height of approximately 6 inches. Remove litter such as brush, rock, and other materials that will interfere with subsequent vegetation establishment.
- (2) Strip off the humus-bearing soil. Take care to minimize removing the underlying sterile soil. Then stockpile the topsoil on the right of way or place it directly on the designated areas.
- (3) Under the Salvaged Topsoil bid item, remove topsoil from excavation areas and the roadway foundation up to the quantity necessary to cover the slopes for the bid items of Salvaged Topsoil and Topsoil. Salvage topsoil from embankment areas outside the roadway foundation only if that additional material is required to cover the slopes.
- (4) Use Salvaged Topsoil in excess of the contract quantity to replace contract quantities of Topsoil. Utilize excess topsoil on the project or dispose of as specified in [205.3.12](#).

#### **625.3.3 Placing**

- (1) After preparing and finishing the areas designated for topsoil to the required lines, grades, slopes and cross section, place and spread the topsoil to a uniform depth as the plans show or the contract requires. If no depth is shown, place and spread the topsoil to a minimum depth of 4 inches in rural areas and a minimum depth of 6 inches in urban areas, or as the engineer designates.
- (2) Break down all clods and lumps using the appropriate equipment to provide a uniformly textured soil.
- (3) Where using either sod or seed mixture 40 ensure that, for the upper 2 inches, 100 percent of the material passes a one-inch sieve and at least 90 percent passes the No. 10 sieve.
- (4) Remove rocks, twigs, foreign material, and clods that cannot be broken down. Dress the entire surface to present a uniform appearance. The engineer will not require rolling.
- (5) If light sandy soils are covered with heavier clay bearing loam topsoil, then mix or blend the 2 types of soils to a more or less homogeneous mixture by using the appropriate equipment.

### **625.4 Measurement**

#### **625.4.1 Topsoil**

- (1) The department will measure Topsoil acceptably completed by the square yard or by the cubic yard, whichever the contract specifies.
- (2) If the department measures by the square yard, the measured quantity shall equal the actual number of square yards of topsoiled area to the depth specified within the limits of construction designated on the plans, or in the contract, or as the engineer directs.
- (3) If measured by the cubic yard, the department will measure material in the vehicle. If the contractor transports the material in vehicles not adapted for measurement, then the department will measure the

material in cubic yards of volume in its original position computed by the method of average end areas with no correction for curvature; or if the engineer elects, by the method of truncated prisms.

#### **625.4.2 Salvaged Topsoil**

- (1) The department will measure Salvaged Topsoil by the square yard acceptably completed. The quantity measured for payment shall equal the actual number of square yards of area topsoiled to the depth specified within the limits of construction designated on the plans or in the contract, or as the engineer directs.

#### **625.5 Payment**

- (1) The department will pay for measured quantities at the contract unit price under the following bid items:

<u>ITEM NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
625.0100	Topsoil	SY
625.0105	Topsoil	CY
625.0500	Salvaged Topsoil	SY

#### **625.5.1 Topsoil**

- (1) Payment for Topsoil is full compensation for providing, excavating, loading, hauling, and placing this material; and for undercutting excavations, or underfilling embankments necessary to receive this material. The department will make no allowance, adjustment, or measurement for payment under the Excavation bid items for undercutting cut sections, or underfilling embankments.

#### **625.5.2 Salvaged Topsoil**

- (1) Payment for Salvaged Topsoil is full compensation for removing, stockpiling, reclaiming, hauling, and placing this material; and for undercutting excavations, or underfilling embankments necessary to receive this material. The department will make no deductions from the Excavation bid items for the quantities of Salvaged Topsoil material obtained from areas of cut sections. Additionally, the department will not measure or pay for the volumes of Salvaged Topsoil removed from sites of proposed embankments under the Excavation bid items, or make any allowance, adjustment, or measurement for payment under the Excavation bid items for undercutting cut sections, or underfilling embankments.
- (2) If an area is damaged by erosion after partial acceptance, the department will pay for restoring topsoil in these areas at a unit price determined by multiplying the contract unit price bid for Salvaged Topsoil by 3, or absent that bid item in the contract, as the contract unit price bid for Topsoil multiplied by 3, The department will pay for restoration under the Restoration Post Acceptance Topsoil administrative item.
- (3) The department will not pay for removing topsoil from outside the roadway foundation in embankment areas unless that material is necessary to cover the slopes.