

1.0 GENERAL

.1 General

- .1 Testing of soils/growing mediums.

.2 References

- .1 Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition; Section 5 Growing Media.
- .2 Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition; Section 13 Landscape Over Structures.
- .3 Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition; Section 7 Mulching.
- .4 Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver: Regional Best Management Guides.

.3 Definitions

- .1 *Growing Medium* - means a mixture of mineral particulates, micro organisms and organic matter which provides suitable medium for supporting intended plant growth. Commercially available landscape soils or native site soils, if proposed for use, are subject to landscape soil assessment analysis.
- .2 *On-Site Topsoil* - refers to top soils (native or commercially processed) on location at project site, or reallocated, stockpiled and transported from elsewhere on BCIT Campus lands. On-Site Topsoil may be excavated, stockpiled, protected and amended in-situ as required by the project. If proposed for project use, On-Site Topsoil will also be subject to landscape soil assessment analysis and amendment.
- .3 *Soil Consultant* - refers to the professional Agrologist with training in landscape soil analysis and interpretation, who is responsible for laboratory services and recommendations.
- .4 *Contractor* - refers to the Contractor responsible for the Landscape Works on a project, whether this is the General Contractor, a Landscape Contractor, or a Landscape Sub-Contractor, or a combination of Contractors and Sub-Contractors.

2.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE

.1 Quality Requirements

- .1 For proposed amended soils: The Contractor who is responsible for supply of growing medium and/or conservation of on-site topsoil should be responsible for the testing of the growing medium. Testing shall be carried out by Pacific Soil Analysis Inc., at #5 - 11720 Voyageur Way, Richmond, B.C. (Ph. 604 - 273-8226).
- .2 For imported growing medium: Refer to Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition; Standards, current edition, chapter 6 Refer to BC Landscape Standards, current edition, chapter 6.

3.0 PRODUCTS

Consultants are to provide complete specifications, and review these Technical Standards documents to include BCIT requirements within the specifications as applicable to the project.

.1 System Description

- .1 Growing medium specified as 'import' on design drawings require a Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition, Level 2 growing medium submittal to be provided to Landscape Architect for approval prior to purchase and installation.
- .2 All installation and preparation to comply with Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition, section 3 Site Preparation, and Section 5 Growing medium. Comply with Section 13, Landscape Over Structures when over podium areas.
- .3 On-site topsoil designated to remain undisturbed in-situ, must be assessed, tested, amended, protected from compaction and weed infestation, and otherwise managed for the duration of the project as required and/or directed according to project drawings, specifications, soil test results or as directed by the Consultant in consultation with Owner.
- .4 On-site topsoil infested with pernicious perennial weeds such as horsetail, vetch or morning glory or any other plants identified through the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver shall be excavated to depth necessary to prohibit future recurrence and removed from BCIT.
- .5 BCIT discourages the use of herbicides. Use of any herbicide needs to be requested to and approved by the BCIT Manager - Transportation and Grounds or designate before scope of work is defined and awarded.
- .6 Any herbicide use or application must follow the Integrated Pest Management Act https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/00_03058_01.
- .7 Do not relocate excavated soil to other locations on campus without permission of BCIT Manager – Transportation and Grounds.

4.0 PRODUCTS**.1 Manufacturers and Submittals**

- .1 Manufacturer to be Landscape Industry Certified in conjunction with BCLNA (BC Landscape and Nursery Association) programming or approved equal.
- .2 Subject to compliance with specifications the following manufacturers are acceptable:
 - .1 Soil:
 - .1 Answer Garden Products Soils.
 - .2 Meadows Landscape Supply Soils.
 - .3 Or approved alternative.
 - .2 Mulch:
 - .1 Garden Products Nutra Mulch.

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.2 Or approved alternative.

.2 Testing

- .1 Ensure testing shows compliance with section 5 of the Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition, Table T-5.3.5.3. Properties of Growing Medium or Level 2 Groomed Areas, and additional requirements shown in section 5 for nutrients and texture.
- .2 Ensure test determines the characteristics and quantity of amendments to be used to bring the growing media and/or on-site topsoil to a satisfactory chemical and physical condition.
- .3 Ensure sand shall be tested for sieve size analysis.
- .4 Before adjusting the growing medium and/or on-site topsoil as required by the soils testing, submit soils analysis to the Consultant and Owner. The Consultant shall confirm in writing the growing media and/or on-site topsoil amendments and fertilizer to be applied. Make amendment to the growing medium and/or on-site topsoil as per the Consultants written recommendations.
- .5 Ensure soil testing is completed and recommendations approved by Consultant prior to installation of plant material.

5.0 EXECUTION

.1 Placement

- .1 Refer to the Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition.

.2 Acceptance

- .1 Approval of growing medium may be subject to soil testing and analysis if any doubt exists concerning its conformity to the requirements as per the Canadian Landscape Standard, Current Edition.

*** END OF **SOIL PREPARATION** SECTION ***