

B-4-5 STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

FOR

PERMANENT STABILIZATION

Definition

To stabilize disturbed soils with permanent vegetation.

Purpose

To use long-lived perennial grasses and legumes to establish permanent ground cover on disturbed soils.

Conditions Where Practice Applies

Exposed soils where ground cover is needed for 6 months or more.

Criteria

A. Seed Mixtures

1. General Use

- a. Select one or more of the species or mixtures listed in Table B.3 for the appropriate Plant Hardiness Zone (from Figure B.3) and based on the site condition or purpose found on Table B.2. Enter selected mixture(s), application rates, and seeding dates in the Permanent Seeding Summary. The Summary is to be placed on the plan.
- b. Additional planting specifications for exceptional sites such as shorelines, stream banks, or dunes or for special purposes such as wildlife or aesthetic treatment may be found in USDA-NRCS Technical Field Office Guide, Section 342 - Critical Area Planting.
- c. For sites having disturbed area over 5 acres, use and show the rates recommended by the soil testing agency.
- d. For areas receiving low maintenance, apply urea form fertilizer (46-0-0) at 3 ½ pounds per 1000 square feet (150 pounds per acre) at the time of seeding in addition to the soil amendments shown in the Permanent Seeding Summary .

2. Turfgrass Mixtures

- a. Areas where turfgrass may be desired include lawns, parks, playgrounds, and commercial sites which will receive a medium to high level of maintenance.
- b. Select one or more of the species or mixtures listed below based on the site conditions or purpose. Enter selected mixture(s), application rates, and seeding dates in the Permanent Seeding Summary. The summary is to be placed on the plan.
 - i. Kentucky Bluegrass: Full Sun Mixture: For use in areas that receive intensive management. Irrigation required in the areas of central Maryland and Eastern Shore. Recommended Certified Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivars Seeding Rate: 1.5 to 2.0 pounds per 1000 square feet. Choose a minimum of three Kentucky bluegrass cultivars with each ranging from 10 to 35 percent of the total mixture by weight.
 - ii. Kentucky Bluegrass/Perennial Rye: Full Sun Mixture: For use in full sun areas where

rapid establishment is necessary and when turf will receive medium to intensive management. Certified Perennial Ryegrass Cultivars/Certified Kentucky Bluegrass Seeding Rate: 2 pounds mixture per 1000 square feet. Choose a minimum of three Kentucky bluegrass cultivars with each ranging from 10 to 35 percent of the total mixture by weight.

- iii. Tall Fescue/Kentucky Bluegrass: Full Sun Mixture: For use in drought prone areas and/or for areas receiving low to medium management in full sun to medium shade. Recommended mixture includes; Certified Tall Fescue Cultivars 95 to 100 percent, Certified Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivars 0 to 5 percent. Seeding Rate: 5 to 8 pounds per 1000 square feet. One or more cultivars may be blended.
- iv. Kentucky Bluegrass/Fine Fescue: Shade Mixture: For use in areas with shade in Bluegrass lawns. For establishment in high quality, intensively managed turf area. Mixture includes; Certified Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivars 30 to 40 percent and Certified Fine Fescue and 60 to 70 percent. Seeding Rate: 1½ to 3 pounds per 1000 square feet.

Notes:

Select turfgrass varieties from those listed in the most current University of Maryland Publication, Agronomy Memo #77, "Turfgrass Cultivar Recommendations for Maryland"

Choose certified material. Certified material is the best guarantee of cultivar purity. The certification program of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Turf and Seed Section, provides a reliable means of consumer protection and assures a pure genetic line

c. Ideal Times of Seeding for Turf Grass Mixtures

Western MD: March 15 to June 1, August 1 to October 1 (Hardiness Zones: 5b, 6a)

Central MD: March 1 to May 15, August 15 to October 15 (Hardiness Zone: 6b)

Southern MD, Eastern Shore: March 1 to May 15, August 15 to October 15
(Hardiness Zones: 7a, 7b)

- d. Till areas to receive seed by disking or other approved methods to a depth of 2 to 4 inches, level and rake the areas to prepare a proper seedbed. Remove stones and debris over 1½ inches in diameter. The resulting seedbed must be in such condition that future mowing of grasses will pose no difficulty.
- e. If soil moisture is deficient, supply new seedlings with adequate water for plant growth (½ to 1 inch every 3 to 4 days depending on soil texture) until they are firmly established. This is especially true when seedlings are made late in the planting season, in abnormally dry or hot seasons, or on adverse sites.

Permanent Seeding Summary

Hardiness Zone (from Figure B.3): _____ Seed Mixture (from Table B.3): _____					Fertilizer Rate (10-20-20)			Lime Rate
No.	Species	Application Rate (lb/ac)	Seeding Dates	Seeding Depths	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	
				¼- ½ in	45 pounds per acre (1.0 lb/ 1000 sf)	90 lb/ac (2 lb/ 1000 sf)	90 lb/ac (2 lb/ 1000 sf)	2 tons/ac (90 lb/ 1000 sf)
				¼- ½ in				
				¼- ½ in				

B. Sod: To provide quick cover on disturbed areas (2:1 grade or flatter).

1. General Specifications

- a. Class of turfgrass sod must be Maryland State Certified. Sod labels must be made available to the job foreman and inspector.
- b. Sod must be machine cut at a uniform soil thickness of ¾ inch, plus or minus ¼ inch, at the time of cutting. Measurement for thickness must exclude top growth and thatch. Broken pads and torn or uneven ends will not be acceptable.
- c. Standard size sections of sod must be strong enough to support their own weight and retain their size and shape when suspended vertically with a firm grasp on the upper 10 percent of the section.
- d. Sod must not be harvested or transplanted when moisture content (excessively dry or wet) may adversely affect its survival.
- e. Sod must be harvested, delivered, and installed within a period of 36 hours. Sod not transplanted within this period must be approved by an agronomist or soil scientist prior to its installation.

2. Sod Installation

- a. During periods of excessively high temperature or in areas having dry subsoil, lightly irrigate the subsoil immediately prior to laying the sod.
- b. Lay the first row of sod in a straight line with subsequent rows placed parallel to it and tightly wedged against each other. Stagger lateral joints to promote more uniform growth and strength. Ensure that sod is not stretched or overlapped and that all joints are butted tight in order to prevent voids which would cause air drying of the roots.
- c. Wherever possible, lay sod with the long edges parallel to the contour and with staggering joints. Roll and tamp, peg or otherwise secure the sod to prevent slippage on slopes. Ensure solid contact exists between sod roots and the underlying soil surface.
- d. Water the sod immediately following rolling and tamping until the underside of the new sod pad and soil surface below the sod are thoroughly wet. Complete the operations of laying, tamping and irrigating for any piece of sod within eight hours.

3. Sod Maintenance

- a. In the absence of adequate rainfall, water daily during the first week or as often and sufficiently as necessary to maintain moist soil to a depth of 4 inches. Water sod during the heat of the day to prevent wilting.
- b. After the first week, sod watering is required as necessary to maintain adequate moisture content.
- c. Do not mow until the sod is firmly rooted. No more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the grass leaf must be removed by the initial cutting or subsequent cuttings. Maintain a grass height of at least 3 inches unless otherwise specified.

B-4-4 STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

FOR

TEMPORARY STABILIZATION

Definition

To stabilize disturbed soils with vegetation for up to 6 months.

Purpose

To use fast growing vegetation that provides cover on disturbed soils.

Conditions Where Practice Applies

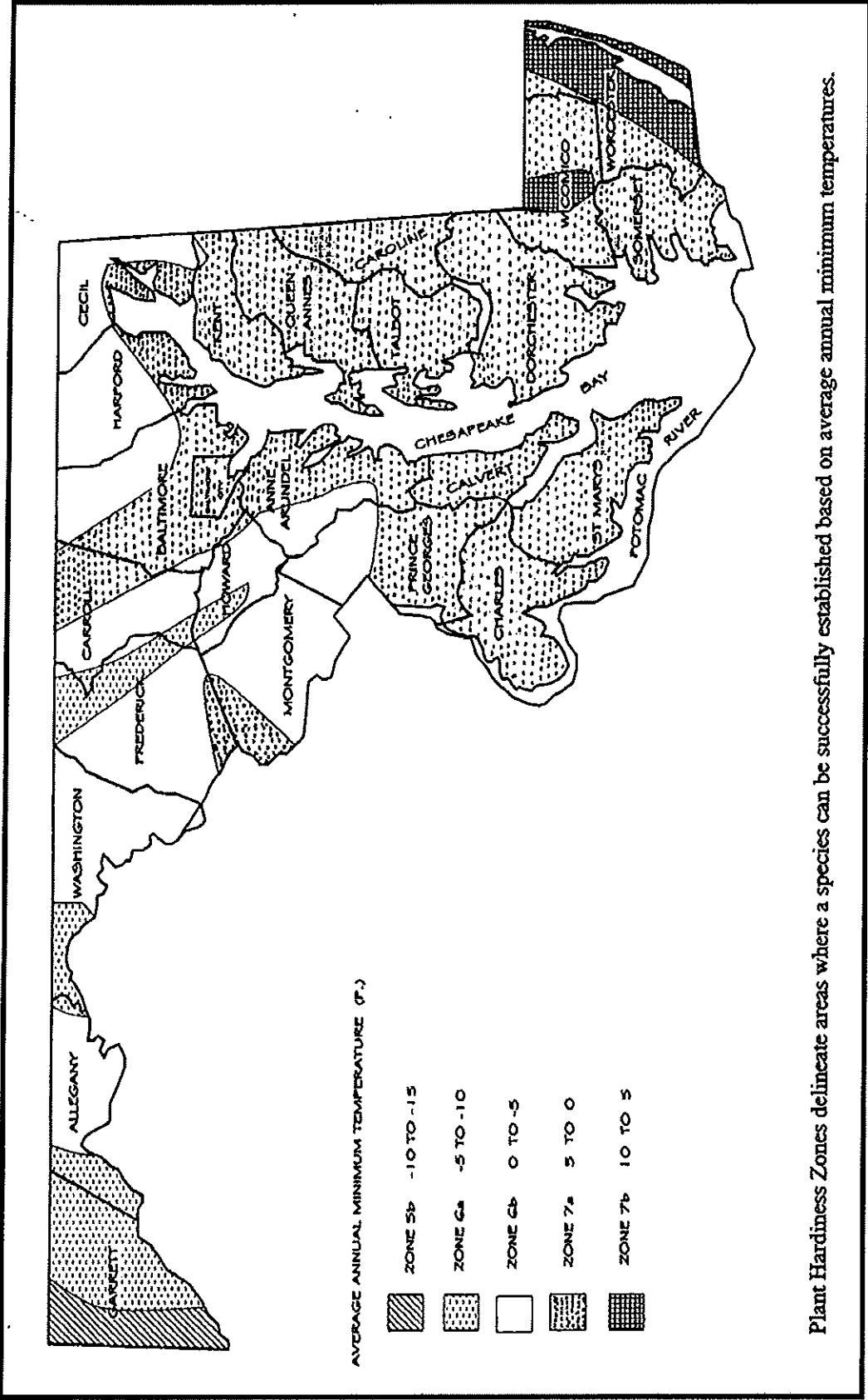
Exposed soils where ground cover is needed for a period of 6 months or less. For longer duration of time, permanent stabilization practices are required.

Criteria

1. Select one or more of the species or seed mixtures listed in Table B.1 for the appropriate Plant Hardiness Zone (from Figure B.3), and enter them in the Temporary Seeding Summary below along with application rates, seeding dates and seeding depths. If this Summary is not put on the plan and completed, then Table B.1 plus fertilizer and lime rates must be put on the plan.
2. For sites having soil tests performed, use and show the recommended rates by the testing agency. Soil tests are not required for Temporary Seeding.
3. When stabilization is required outside of a seeding season, apply seed and mulch or straw mulch alone as prescribed in Section B-4-3.A.1.b and maintain until the next seeding season.

Temporary Seeding Summary

Hardiness Zone (from Figure B.3): _____ Seed Mixture (from Table B.1): _____					Fertilizer Rate (10-20-20)	Lime Rate
No.	Species	Application Rate (lb/ac)	Seeding Dates	Seeding Depths		
					436 lb/ac (10 lb/1000 sf)	2 tons/ac (90 lb/1000 sf)



Plant Hardiness Zones delineate areas where a species can be successfully established based on average annual minimum temperatures.

Figure B.3: U.S.D.A. Plant Hardiness Zones

Table B.1: Temporary Seeding for Site Stabilization

Plant Species	Seeding Rate ^{1/}		Seeding Depth ^{2/} (inches)	Recommended Seeding Dates by Plant Hardiness Zone ^{3/}		
	lb/ac	lb/1000 ft ²		5b and 6a	6b	7a and 7b
Cool-Season Grasses						
Annual Ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i> <i>ssp. multiflorum</i>)	40	1.0	0.5	Mar 15 to May 31; Aug 1 to Sep 30	Mar 1 to May 15; Aug 1 to Oct 15	Feb 15 to Apr 30; Aug 15 to Nov 30
Barley (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>)	96	2.2	1.0	Mar 15 to May 31; Aug 1 to Sep 30	Mar 1 to May 15; Aug 1 to Oct 15	Feb 15 to Apr 30; Aug 15 to Nov 30
Oats (<i>Avena sativa</i>)	72	1.7	1.0	Mar 15 to May 31; Aug 1 to Sep 30	Mar 1 to May 15; Aug 1 to Oct 15	Feb 15 to Apr 30; Aug 15 to Nov 30
Wheat (<i>Triticum aestivum</i>)	120	2.8	1.0	Mar 15 to May 31; Aug 1 to Sep 30	Mar 1 to May 15; Aug 1 to Oct 15	Feb 15 to Apr 30; Aug 15 to Nov 30
Cereal Rye (<i>Secale cereale</i>)	112	2.8	1.0	Mar 15 to May 31; Aug 1 to Oct 31	Mar 1 to May 15; Aug 1 to Nov 15	Feb 15 to Apr 30; Aug 15 to Dec 15
Warm-Season Grasses						
Foxtail Millet (<i>Setaria italica</i>)	50	0.7	0.5	Jun 1 to Jul 31	May 16 to Jul 31	May 1 to Aug 14
Pearl Millet (<i>Pennisetum glaucum</i>)	20	0.5	0.5	Jun 1 to Jul 31	May 16 to Jul 31	May 1 to Aug 14

NOTES:

1/ Seeding rates for the warm-season grasses are in pounds of Pure Live Seed (PLS). Actual planting rates shall be adjusted to reflect percent seed germination and purity, as tested. Adjustments are usually not needed for the cool-season grasses.

Seeding rates listed above are for temporary seedings, when planted alone. When planted as a nurse crop with permanent seed mixes, use 1/3 of the seeding rate listed above for barley, oats, and wheat. For smaller-seeded grasses (annual ryegrass, pearl millet, foxtail millet), do not exceed more than 5% (by weight) of the overall permanent seeding mix. Cereal rye generally should not be used as a nurse crop, unless planting will occur in very late fall beyond the seeding dates for other temporary seedings. Cereal rye has allelopathic properties that inhibit the germination and growth of other plants. If it must be used as a nurse crop, seed at 1/3 of the rate listed above.

Oats are the recommended nurse crop for warm-season grasses.

2/ For sandy soils, plant seeds at twice the depth listed above.

3/ The planting dates listed are averages for each Zone and may require adjustment to reflect local conditions, especially near the boundaries of the zone.