

Livingston Eyre Associates Ltd

67 Lawrence Road

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Revision: P02

Information

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Q28

Topsoil and soil ameliorants **REVISED**

System outline

115 Topsoil system for turfing and seeding

1. Description: FOR LAWNS
2. Composition
 - 2.1. Topsoil: Imported topsoil to BS 3882
 - 2.2. Ameliorants: Organic materials

135 Planting bed topsoil system

1. Description: FOR ALL PLANTING BEDS
2. Composition
 - 2.1. Topsoil: Imported topsoil to BS 3882
 - 2.2. Ameliorants: Organic materials

155 Mulching and top dressing system

1. Description: FOR ALL PLANTING BEDS
2. Composition
 - 2.1. Material: Sanitized and stabilized composted materials certified to PAS 100

Products

300 Preparation materials generally

1. Purity: Free of pests and disease.
2. Foreign matter: On visual inspection, free of fragments and roots of aggressive weeds, sticks, straw, subsoil, pieces of brick, concrete, glass, wire, large lumps of clay or vegetation, and the like.
3. Contamination: Do not use topsoil contaminated with subsoil, rubbish or other materials that are:
 - 3.1. Corrosive, explosive or flammable.
 - 3.2. Hazardous to human or animal life.
 - 3.3. Detrimental to healthy plant growth.
4. Subsoil: In areas to receive topsoil or planting media, do not use subsoil contaminated with the above materials.
5. Objectionable odour: None.
6. Give notice: If any evidence or symptoms of soil contamination are discovered on the site or in topsoil or planting media to be imported.

305 Permitted materials

1. Materials: Bark, Composted bark and Composted green waste
2. Give notice: before ordering or using.
3. Declaration of compliance in accordance with BS EN 13650: Required

310 Materials not permitted

1. Materials: Peat and Products containing peat

315 Imported topsoil to BS 3882

1. **Description:** FOR PLANTING BEDS AND TURFING
2. **Quantity:** Provide as necessary to make up any deficiency of topsoil existing on site and to complete the work.
3. **Standard:** To BS 3882.
4. **Classification:** Multipurpose
 - 4.1. Soil textural class to BS 3882, Figure 1: Sandy loam
5. **Source:** Submit proposals

355 Organic materials

1. **Description:** FOR LAWN AREAS
2. **Type:** Biochar
3. **Source:** Carbon Gold
 - 3.1. **Product reference:** Lawn improver

356 Organic materials

1. **Description:** FOR PLANTING BEDS
2. **Type:** Biochar
3. **Source:** Carbon Gold
 - 3.1. **Product reference:** Soil Improver

360 Sanitized and stabilized composted materials certified to PAS 100

ADDED

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1. **Description:** FOR TOP DRESSING/ MULCHING
 2. **Standard:** In accordance with PAS 100 and Compost Quality Protocol
 3. **Source:** Melcourt
 - 3.1. **Product reference:** Composted Fine Bark
 4. **Horticultural parameters**
 - 4.1. pH (1:5 water extract): 5.5-6.5
 - 4.2. Moisture content (m/m of fresh weight): 35-55%.
 - 4.3. Organic matter content (minimum): 30%
 - 4.4. Grading (air dried samples): 0-12mm nominal
 - 4.5. Carbon:Nitrogen ratio (maximum): 20:1.
 5. **Texture:** Friable.
 6. **Objectionable odour:** Not permitted.
 7. **Compost Certification Scheme certification:** Not required
 8. **Declaration of analysis:** Submit.
 9. **Additional analyses:** Not required

Execution

610 Topsoil analysis

1. **Soil to be analysed:** Imported topsoil
2. **Soil analyst:** TOHA or similar approved
3. **Samples:** Collect in accordance with BS 3882.

4. Submit
 - 4.1. Declaration of analysis: In accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.
 - 4.2. Additional analysis: Phytotoxic and CLEA elements
 - 4.3. Report detailing soil analyst's recommendations.

620 Importing topsoil

1. Give notice: Before stripping topsoil for transfer to site.
 - 1.1. Notice period: 7 days

630 Documentation for imported topsoil

1. Description: FOR PLANTING BEDS AND TURFING
2. Timing: Submit at handover.
3. Contents
 - 3.1. Full description of all soil components.
 - 3.2. Record of source for all soil components.
 - 3.3. Record drawings showing the location and depth of all soils by type and grade.
 - 3.4. Declaration of analysis: in accordance with BS 3882, clause 6 and Table 1.
4. Number of copies: Two

650 Notice

1. Give notice before
 - 1.1. Setting out.
 - 1.2. Spreading topsoil.
 - 1.3. Applying herbicide.
 - 1.4. Applying fertilizer.
 - 1.5. Visiting site during maintenance period.
2. Period of notice:

655 Mechanical tools

1. Restrictions: Do not use within 100 mm of tree and plant stems. Do not damage adjacent planting.

660 Grading subsoil for:

1. Description: GRASSED AREAS AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTING BEDS
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 8601.
3. General: Grade to smooth flowing contours to achieve specified finished levels of topsoil.
4. Areas of thicker topsoil: Excavate locally.
5. Avoid compaction.
6. Excess subsoil: Remove.

665 Subsoil surface preparation for:

1. Description: GRASSED AREAS AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTING BEDS
2. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
3. General: Excavate and/ or place fill to required profiles and levels, as section D20.
4. Loosening

- 4.1. When ground conditions are sufficiently dry to allow breaking up of soils, loosen thoroughly to specified depth
 - 4.1.1. Light and noncohesive subsoils: 150 mm
 - 4.1.2. Stiff clay and cohesive subsoils: 450 mm
 - 4.1.3. Rock and chalk subgrades: Lightly scarify to promote free drainage.
- 4.2. Wet conditions: Do not loosen subsoils.
5. Stones: Immediately before spreading topsoil, remove stones larger than 50 mm.
6. Remove from site: Arisings, contaminants and debris

670 Inspecting formations

1. Give notice: Before spreading topsoil for lawn areas and planting beds.
2. Notice period: 7 days

675 Preparation of undisturbed topsoil

1. Standard: In accordance with BS 4428.
 - 1.1. Grading and cultivation: Category C
2. Hard ground: Break up thoroughly.
3. Clearing: Remove large stones with a diameter greater than 50mm, do not disturb roots of retained trees.
4. Weed control: Treat with hot foam at appropriate time before grading and cultivation

685 Surplus materials to be removed

1. Subsoil, stones, debris, wrapping material, canes, ties, temporary labelling, rubbish, prunings and other arisings: Remove.

690 Topsoil storage heaps

1. Location: to be agreed
2. Height (maximum): 1.5 m
3. Width (maximum): 3.0 m
 - 3.1. Formation: Loose tip and shape from the side only, without running machinery on the heap at any time.
4. Protection
 - 4.1. Do not place any other material on top of storage heaps.
 - 4.2. Do not allow construction plant to pass over storage heaps.
 - 4.3. Prevent compaction and contamination, by fencing and covering as appropriate.

700 Grading of topsoil

1. Topsoil condition: Reasonably dry and workable.
2. Contours: Smooth and flowing, with falls for adequate drainage.
 - 2.1. Hollows and ridges: Not permitted.
3. Give notice: If required levels cannot be achieved by movement of existing soil.

705 Handling topsoil

1. Standard: In accordance with BS 3882.
2. Aggressive weeds: Give notice and obtain instructions before moving topsoil.
3. Plant: Select and use plant to minimize disturbance, trafficking and compaction.

4. **Contamination:** Do not mix topsoil with:
 - 4.1. Subsoil, stone, hardcore, rubbish or material from demolition work.
 - 4.2. Other grades of topsoil.
5. **Multiple handling:** Keep to a minimum. Use or stockpile topsoil immediately after stripping.
6. **Wet conditions:** Handle topsoil in the driest condition possible. Do not handle during or after heavy rainfall, or when the moisture content is greater than the plastic limit.

710 Spreading topsoil on:

1. **Description:** GRASSED AREAS AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTING BEDS
2. **Standard:** In accordance with BS 3882.
3. **Temporary roads/ surfacing:** Remove before spreading topsoil.
4. **Layers**
 - 4.1. **Depth (maximum):** 150 mm.
 - 4.2. Gently firm each layer before spreading the next.
5. **Depth after firming and settlement:**
 - 5.1. Planting beds: 450mm
 - 5.2. Climber pits: 600mm
 - 5.3. Grassed areas: 200mm
 - 5.4. Tree pits: full depth as Q31
6. **Crumb structure:** Do not compact topsoil. Preserve a friable texture of separate visible crumbs wherever possible.

718 Final cultivation

1. **Description:** FOR TURFING
2. **Compacted topsoil:** Break up to full depth.
3. **Tilth:** Loosen, aerate and break up topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.
4. **Depth:** 150 mm
5. **Particle size (maximum):** 10 mm
6. **Timing:** After grading, and within a few days before laying turf
7. **Weather and ground conditions:** Suitably dry.
8. **Surface:** Leave regular and even.
9. **Levels:** 25 mm above adjoining paving or kerbs
10. **Undesirable material brought to the surface**
 - 10.1. Remove visible weeds.
 - 10.2. Remove roots and large stones with any dimension exceeding 10 mm.

719 Final cultivation

1. **Description:** FOR PLANTING BEDS
2. **Compacted topsoil:** Break up to full depth.
3. **Tilth:** Loosen, aerate and break up topsoil to a tilth suitable for blade grading.
4. **Depth:** 350 mm
5. **Particle size (maximum):** 20 mm
6. **Timing:** Within a few days before planting
7. **Weather and ground conditions:** Suitably dry.
8. **Surface:** Leave regular and even.

9. Levels: 5mm below adjoining paving or kerbs with an allowance for mulch
10. Undesirable material brought to the surface
 - 10.1. Remove visible weeds.
 - 10.2. Remove roots and large stones with any dimension exceeding 20 mm.

720 Finished levels of topsoil after settlement

1. In relation to adjoining paving, kerbs or hard surfaces: 25 mm above for grass areas, 5mm below for planting
2. In relation to adjacent grass areas: 5 mm below
3. Within root spread of existing trees and shrubs to be retained: Do not dig or cultivate.
4. Adjoining soil areas: Marry in.
5. Thickness of turf or mulch: Included.

805 Applying soil ameliorant

1. Description: TO LAWN AREAS
2. Type: Organic materials as clause 355
3. Fully incorporate into topsoil to a depth of 150 mm.
4. Application: Spread evenly.
 - 4.1. Timing: Apply prior to cultivation.
 - 4.2. Rate: 2 litres per square metre
5. Timing: Prior to cultivation.

806 Applying soil ameliorant

1. Description: TO PLANTING BEDS
2. Type: Organic materials as clause 356
3. Fully incorporate into topsoil to a depth of 300 mm.
4. Application: Spread evenly.
 - 4.1. Timing: Apply prior to cultivation.
 - 4.2. Rate: 2 litres per square metre
5. Timing: Prior to cultivation.

845 Applying loose mulch

1. Description: FOR PLANTING BEDS AND CONTAINER PLANTING
2. Timing: Immediately after planting
3. Preparation: Clear all weeds and water soil thoroughly
4. Coverage of mulch (minimum)
 - 4.1. Planting beds (depth): 75 mm depth
 - 4.2. Container planting: 50 mm depth
5. Finished level of mulch: 5 mm below adjacent grassed or paved areas

Completion

920 Applying mulch

1. Timing: At end of the maintenance period
2. Watering: Ensure that soil is thoroughly moistened prior to mulching, applying water where necessary.

3. Planting beds: Re-mulch.
 - 3.1. Depth (minimum): 75 mm
4. Container planting: Remulch.
 - 4.1. Depth (minimum): 50 mm

Ω End of Section



Specification created using NBS Chorus