

804 TOPSOIL

Sources may or may not be designated. When sources are furnished by the Contractor, prior to hauling any topsoil to the project site, the Contractor shall submit a written soil analysis prepared by a laboratory, for approval by the Resident Engineer.

Requirements to be met and attested to in the soil analysis are:

- Soil shall be fertile.
- Soil shall be friable.
- Soil shall be from well-drained arable land.
- Soil shall be from land that has been producing healthy vegetation.
- Soil shall be non-toxic.
- Soil shall be reasonably free from subsoil, refuse, roots, heavy clay, clods, noxious weed seeds, phytotoxic materials, coarse sand, rocks over 5 centimeters in diameter, sticks, brush, litter, and other deleterious matter.
- The characteristics of the soil shall meet the requirements of the Standard Specifications.
- Topsoil that has pH values that are too high can be amended with soil sulfur and/or gypsum as recommended by an accredited soil laboratory and approved by the Resident Engineer.

Soil obtained from more than 4 feet (1.2 meters) deep should not be considered as topsoil even if it complies with the grading, pH, soluble salts, and plasticity index requirements. [Topsoil usually is no deeper than 3 or 4 feet (1 meter). Anything below that usually has calcium carbonate chunks, poor structure, and does not have soil bacteria and microbes necessary to good plant growth.]

Certificates of Analysis shall be submitted to the Resident Engineer for each source of topsoil proposed for use. The Resident Engineer's approval shall be obtained prior to delivery of the topsoil from the source to the project.

The Resident Engineer at the job site gives final approval of the material, after testing in accordance with the Standard Specifications. Six random samples shall be taken after final placement of each 20,000 cubic yard (16,000 cubic meter) lot delivered to the site.

Sub-grade material shall be scarified to a depth of 6 inches (150 millimeters) prior to placement of topsoil. Placement shall be uniform and any compacted areas are to be broken up by cultivation.