SPECIFICATION

SECTION 13.0: Organic Planting Soil (70/30)

13.1 Description:

This work shall consist of preparing a consistent, free draining soil containing all the physical, chemical, and biological properties to create a sustainable landscape. This blend is designed to be used as a planting soil mix / soil amendment to be incorporated into existing soil to create a living soil profile which supports nutrient cycling and plant growth. This mix will be pre-blended offsite and delivered ready for installation.

13.2 Materials (component specifications)

The materials will consist of the two components listed below which must meet the corresponding testing standards for each component.

A: Blackened Manufactured Top Soil (70% by volume)

1. Must be aged, processed bark/humus based topsoil that is friable, and free of weed seeds and containments.

2. Must be screened to 3/8”

B: Nutrient Grade Compost: Quality compost must be manufactured by a composter enrolled in the **U**nited **S**tates **C**ompost **C**ouncil’s (USCC) **S**eal of **T**esting **A**ssurance (STA) Program. (30% by volume)

1. Compost must meet following parameters as tested by an STA approved lab using the Test Methods for Evaluating Compost and Compost Manufactures method.

2. Plant Nutrients	%, dry weight basis	TMECC Method
Nitrogen	>1.2	4.02D
Phosphorus	>0.50	Calc.
Potassium	>0.50	Calc
Calcium	>0.90	4.05
Magnesium	>0.20	4.05
Organic Matter Content	>50%	5.07-A
3. Soluble Salts dS/m (mmhos/cm)	<4.0	4.08-A

4.	Particle Size % under 9.5 mm	95% or greater	2.02-B
5.	Stability Indicator (respirometry) CO2 Evolution mg CO2-C/g OM/day	<2	5.08-F777
6.	Maturity Indicator (bioassay) Percent Emergence Relative Seedling Vigor	85% or greater 85% or greater	5.05-A
7.	Select Pathogens (pass/fail per US EPA Class A standard, 40 CFR 503.32(a))	Pass	Standard Method 9221E

13.2 Organic Planting Soil (70/30) – performance requirements

The final mix shall be tested to insure that the following requirements are meet;

A. Permeability- ASTM D2434 .1 in/hr. or greater.

B. Water holding capacity 25% or greater

B. Plant Sustainability requirements- Mix shall meet the following requirements:

1. Organic Matter	6.0% rate or better
2. Soil pH	6.0-7.0
3. Cation Exchange Capacity	7.5 or better
4. Estimated Nitrogen Release	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
5. Potassium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
6. Magnesium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis
7. Calcium	medium or higher as tested by soil analysis

End of Section