

SECTION 987 FINISH SOIL LAYER MATERIALS

987-1 Description.

All material shall be suitable for plant growth. The organic matter content of the finish soil layer after mixing shall be a minimum of 2.5%, a maximum of 50%, in accordance with FM 1-T 267 and have a pH value of 4.5 or greater and less than or equal to 8.5 as determined in accordance with ASTM E 70. The organic matter content shall be created using any of the following materials.

987-2 Materials.

Finish soil layer materials may be obtained from either, or a combination of, the following sources:

- (1) Excavation within the limits of construction on the project. Such material may be stockpiled or windrowed on the project in areas approved by the Engineer.
- (2) Designated borrow pits for the project.
- (3) From other sources of organic soil materials provided by the Contractor.

987-2.1 Organic Soil: This may consist of muck, mucky peat and peat and shall have an organic matter content of 18% or more with 60% or more clay, or 12% or more organic matter with 0% clay.

987-2.2 Topsoil: The uppermost part of soil from 0 to 10 inches [0 to 250 mm], frequently designated as the "plow layer" or the layer moved during cultivation, presumably fertile and suitable for plant growth.

987-2.3 Compost: Meet the requirements of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Rule 62.709.550 Type Y (yard waste), Type YM (yard waste and manure), Type A (municipal solid waste compost) or Rule 62.640.850 Type AA (composted biosolids) and have unrestricted distribution.

987-2.3.1 Compost for use as a Soil Amendment: If the electrical conductivity (EC) value of the compost exceeds 4.0dS (mmhos/cm) based on the saturated paste extract method, the compost shall be leached with water prior to application.

987-2.3.2 Compost for use as a Mulch: The compost shall contain no foreign matter, such as glass, plastic or metal shards. The compost shall be slightly coarse to coarse in nature (over half of the solids shall be from particles 1/2 inch [12 mm] in size and no greater than 6 inches [150 mm]). Preference shall be given to compost or mulch made from uncontaminated woody waste materials.