



# Florida Department of Transportation

JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

DENVER J. STUTLER, JR.  
SECRETARY

December 21, 2005

Mr. Donald Davis  
Program Operations Engineer  
Federal Highway Administration  
545 John Knox Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: Office of Design, Specifications  
Section 987  
Proposed Specification: 9870000.D01

Dear Mr. Davis:

We are submitting, for your approval, two copies of a proposed Supplemental Specification for Prepared Soil Layer Materials.

This change was proposed by David Sadler of the State Construction Office to update soil layer materials to reflect current requirements.

Please review and transmit your comments, if any, within two weeks. Comments should be sent via Email to SP965DB or [duane.brautigam@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:duane.brautigam@dot.state.fl.us).

If you have any questions relating to this specification change, please call Duane F. Brautigam, State Specifications Engineer at 414-4110.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Duane F. Brautigam, P.E.  
State Specifications Engineer

DFB/jf

Attachment

cc: General Counsel  
Florida Transportation Builders' Assoc.  
State Construction Engineer

**PREPARED SOIL LAYER MATERIALS.****(REV 12-21-05)**

SECTION 987 (Page 924) is deleted and the following substituted:

**SECTION 987*****FINISH-PREPARED* SOIL LAYER MATERIALS****987-1 Description.**

All material shall be suitable for plant growth. The organic matter content of the *finishprepared* soil layer after mixing shall be a minimum of 2.5%, a maximum of ~~5~~10%, 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~~ *FM 5-550*. The organic matter content shall be created using any of the following materials.

**987-2 Materials.**

*FinishPrepared* 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 *30 % or more if the mineral fraction is more than 50% clay, or more than 20% organic matter if the mineral fraction has no clay.*

~~—18% or more with 60% or more clay, or 12% or more organic matter with 0% clay.~~

**987-2.2 TopsoilBlanket Material:** *Meet the material classification shown on the plans and Design Standards, Index No. 505.*

~~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.

**PREPARED SOIL LAYER MATERIALS.****(REV 12-21-05)**

SECTION 987 (Page 924) is deleted and the following substituted:

**SECTION 987  
PREPARED SOIL LAYER MATERIALS****987-1 Description.**

All material shall be suitable for plant growth. The organic matter content of the prepared soil layer after mixing shall be a minimum of 2.5%, a maximum of 10%, 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 FM 5-550. The organic matter content shall be created using any of the following materials.

**987-2 Materials.**

Prepared 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 30 % or more if the mineral fraction is more than 50% clay, or more than 20% organic matter if the mineral fraction has no clay.

**987-2.2 Blanket Material:** Meet the material classification shown on the plans and Design Standards, Index No. 505.

**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.

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