



Florida Department of Transportation

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SECRETARY

DCE MEMORANDUM 25-01

OFFICE OF DESIGN MEMORANDUM 25-01

DATE: March 17, 2025

TO: District Directors of Transportation Operations, District Directors of Transportation Development, District Design Engineers, District Construction Engineers, District Maintenance Engineers, District Consultant Project Management Engineers, District Roadway Design Engineers, District Program Management Engineers, District Specifications Engineers

FROM: Tim Lattner, P.E., Director, Office of Construction
Will Potter, P.E., Director, Office of Design

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SUBJECT: **Invalid Hyperlink in the Standard Specifications (eBook)**

An invalid hyperlink has been identified in Sections 570 and 981 of the *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction (Standard Specifications eBook)*. The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) has changed names and is now the Florida Invasive Species Council (FISC). The new FISC website is <https://www.floridainvasives.org/index.cfm/>, which should be used to access the list of invasive plant species.

The Department has corrected the name and hyperlinks in both Article 570-4 and Article 981-1. The redlines are attached below and the updated *FY 2025-26 Standard Specifications eBook* is available at the following link:

<https://www.fdot.gov/programmanagement/implemented/specbooks/default.shtm>

Should you have any questions, please contact Daniel Strickland at (850) 414-4150 or Daniel.strickland@dot.state.fl.us.

TL/WP/ds

570-4 Turf Establishment.

Perform all work necessary, including watering and fertilizing, to sustain an established turf, free of noxious weeds, at no additional expense to the Department. Provide the filling, leveling, and repairing of any washed or eroded areas, as necessary.

Established turf is defined as follows:

1. An established root system (leaf blades break before seedlings or sod can be pulled from the soil by hand).
2. No bare spots larger than one square foot.
3. No continuous sod seams running perpendicular to the face of the slope.
4. No bare areas comprising more than 1% of any given 1,000 square foot area.
5. No deformation of the performance turf areas caused by mowing or other Contractor equipment.

6. No exposed sod netting.

7. No competing vegetation, exotic or invasive pest plants or noxious weeds.

Monitor turf areas and remove all competing vegetation, exotic or invasive pest plants, and noxious weeds (as listed by the Florida [Exotic Pest Plant Council, Category I](https://www.fleppc.org) “[Invasive Species Council, Current FISC List of Invasive Plant Species](https://www.fleppc.org)”, [Current Edition](https://www.fleppc.org), <https://www.fleppc.org> <https://www.floridainvasives.org/index.cfm/>). Remove such vegetation regularly by manual, mechanical, or chemical control means, as necessary. When selecting herbicides, pay particular attention to ensure use of chemicals that will not harm desired turf or wildflower species. Use herbicides in accordance with 7-1.7.

981-1 General.

The types of seed and sod will be specified in the Contract Documents. All seed and sod shall meet the requirements of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and all applicable state laws, and shall be approved by the Engineer before installation.

All seed, sod and mulch shall be free of noxious weeds and exotic pest plants, plant parts or seed listed in the [Current FISC Category I](https://www.fleppc.org) “[List of Invasive Plant Species](https://www.fleppc.org)” from the Florida [Exotic Pest Plant Council Invasive Species Council \(FLEPPCISC, https://www.fleppc.org https://www.floridainvasives.org/index.cfm/\)](https://www.fleppc.org). Any plant officially listed as being noxious or undesirable by any Federal Agency, any agency of the State of Florida or any local jurisdiction in which the project is being constructed shall not be used. Any such noxious or invasive plant or plant part found to be delivered in seed, sod or mulch will be removed by the Contractor at their expense and in accordance with the law.

All materials shall meet plant quarantine and certification entry requirements of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry Rules.