

## **ITEM 615.0208 08 – MAINTAINING EXISTING WILDFLOWER BEDS**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The work specified shall be used to maintain existing wildflower beds, on State right-of-way, at locations specified in the contract documents. Invasive weeds shall be identified by the Contractor and appropriate spot treatments used to eradicate them, as approved by the Regional Landscape Architect. Application equipment and procedures shall be chosen to have the least impact on surrounding established native wildflowers.

### **MATERIALS**

Water soluble herbicide(s) conforming to Section 713-13 Pesticides.

Pelletized elemental sulfur, Section 713-03.

These and other materials may be selected by the Contractor, however all materials must be approved by the Regional Landscape Architect prior to use.

### **CONSTRUCTION DETAILS**

**A) Identification and treatment.** The Contractor shall identify the invasive plants present at each location and submit the list of invasives and their scheduled treatment during the growing season for approval by the Regional Landscape Architect. The following invasive weed species are listed with specified treatments to control or eliminate them. This list is not all inclusive, and other species may be present that need identification and treatment.

- 1) Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*). This weed shall be treated with Garlon or Stinger.
- 2) Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*). This weed shall be treated with pelletized elemental sulfur, target pH shall be 5.5.
- 3) Thistle (*Cirsium* species). This weed shall be treated with Garlon or Stinger.

**B) Season.** Depending on the severity of infestation, there could be two herbicide spot treatments per growing season; one in May and one in September. If weeds are pervasive and intermingled with planted meadow plants, the contractor shall mow the wildflower beds three to four weeks prior to applying approved treatments, after weeds have resprouted at ground level.

**C) Application.** The Contractor shall supply complete product labels for chemicals used, and apply them at the manufacturers recommended rate for the intended purpose. All equipment used shall be capable of delivering the recommended rate. Applicators shall have proper knowledge and current certification in conformance with NYSDEC pesticide applicator regulations. Care must be taken to treat the invasive weeds with the least impact to surrounding wildflowers.

**D) Liability.** After a suitable time has passed, the Regional Landscape Architect will determine if the treated vegetation was satisfactorily controlled. Any areas needing additional treatment will be done at the Contractor's expense.

### **METHOD OF MEASUREMENT**

This work will be measured as the number of square meters of wildflower bed treated per application.

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**BASIS OF PAYMENT**

The bid price per square meter shall include the cost of furnishing all labor, materials, equipment and incidentals necessary to complete the work as specified.

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