

ITEM 24616.19 M -- BRANCKPACKING

DESCRIPTION

Branchpacking consists of alternate layers of live branch cuttings and tamped backfill to repair small localized slumps and holes in slopes. Under this item the Contractor shall furnish and install select vegetative material and place select clean fill material, in accordance with the contract documents.

MATERIALS

Branchpackings shall consist of branch cuttings from freshly cut dormant plants. On branches no leaf buds shall have initiated growth beyond 6 mm and the cambium layer shall be moist, green, and healthy. All plant material shall be maintained in a continuously cool, covered, and moist state. All material shall be in good condition when installed. Live plant material shall be installed within 48 hours of harvesting.

Live branch cuttings may range from 12 to 50 mm in diameter. They shall be long enough to touch the undisturbed soil at the back of the trench and extend slightly from the rebuilt slope face. See contract documents for plant species, size, and planting season specifications. Plant material substitutions shall be approved by the Engineer prior to delivery to the project site.

Wooden posts shall be used to secure the material in place. These posts shall be 1.5 to 2.4 m long and made from 75 to 100 mm diameter poles or 38 by 89 mm lumber, depending upon the depth of the particular slump or hole. Where specified, live stakes shall be used in place of posts.

Water shall meet the requirements of § 712-01.

Backfill shall meet the requirements of Item "Select Clean Fill".

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Installation shall begin at the lowest point of the work area. Wooden posts shall be spaced in a grid pattern, throughout slump or hole, 300 to 450 mm apart and driven vertically into the ground to a depth of 0.9 to 1.2 m.

A layer of live branch cuttings 100 to 150 mm thick is to be placed between the posts and perpendicular to the slope face. They shall be placed in a crisscross configuration with the basal ends lower than the growing tips. Some of the basal ends of the branches shall touch the back of the hole or slope and the growing tips shall be generally oriented toward and protruding from the slope face.

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Each layer of branches shall be covered by a layer of moistened backfill 450 to 900 mm thick. The soil layer shall be hand tamped in 175 mm lifts to minimize air voids and insure contact with the branches.

The final grade installation shall match the existing slope.

Care of Plant Materials. The Contractor shall care for the planted materials until final acceptance of the contract. Care of planted material shall consist of keeping plant material in a healthy growing condition by watering.

When the Engineer determines that any area within the installation has failed, for any reason, to produce approximately 75% vegetative growth after a suitable period of time, the Contractor shall repeat or rectify all the work required by the specification until the growth of vegetation has been established at no additional cost to the State.

METHOD OF MEASUREMENT

The quantity of branchpacking will be measured as the total number of square meters of surface area satisfactorily installed and accepted, as measured along the slope face.

BASIS OF PAYMENT

The unit price bid per square meter shall include the cost of furnishing all labor, materials, and equipment necessary to complete the work including watering.

Excavation shall be paid for separately.

Seed or other erosion control material shall be paid for under separate items.

Backfill material used shall be paid for under Item "Select Clean Fill".