

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATION
Mulch Cover

Section 620 of the Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, Edition of 2014, is hereby amended as follows:

Subsection **620.02 Materials (d)** is hereby deleted and the following substituted therefore:

(d) Mulch cover. Shall be a mulch cover system as listed on the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL) or shall consist of straw from threshed rice, oats, wheat, barley, or rye; of wood excelsior; or of hay obtained from various legumes or grasses, such as lespedeza, clover, vetch, soybeans, bermuda, carpet sedge, bahia, fescue, or other legumes or grasses; or a combination thereof. Mulch shall be dry and reasonably free from Johnson grass or other noxious weeds, and shall not be excessively brittle or in an advanced state of decomposition. All material will be inspected and approved prior to use.

The following is inserted after Subsection **620.03 Construction Requirements (c) Seeding (3) Hydro-seeding:**

(4) Mulch Cover. If a mulch cover system listed on the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL) is used then the mulch cover and the seed may be incorporated into one operation.

Subsection **620.03 Construction Requirements (d)** is hereby deleted and the following substituted therefore:

(d) Mulch Cover. If a Mulch Cover system listed on the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL) is used then refer to the application rate listed in the QPL otherwise the mulch cover shall be applied at the rate of 4000 pounds per acre (4500 kg/ha). If the mulch cover and seed are not incorporated into one operation then apply the mulch cover immediately after seeding and spread the mulch cover uniformly over the entire area by approved power mulching equipment. When approved by the Engineer, the Contractor may use hand methods to apply mulch cover to small or inaccessible areas. If the Contractor so elects, an approved mulching machine may be used, whereby the application of mulch cover and tackifier may be combined into one operation. If this method is used, no change in application rates will be allowed. In its final position, the anchored mulch shall be loose enough to allow air to circulate, but compact enough to partially shade the ground and reduce the impact of rainfall on the surface of the soil. Care shall be taken to prevent tackifier materials from discoloring or marking structures, pavements, utilities, or other plant growth. Removal of any objectionable discoloration shall be at no cost to the Department.

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The first paragraph of subsection **620.03 Construction Requirements (e)** is hereby deleted and the following substituted therefore:

(e) Mulch Anchoring. If a mulch cover system is selected from the Department's Qualified Products List (QPL) then no additional anchoring is needed. If a mulch cover system is not used then immediately following or during the application of mulch cover on seeded areas, the mulch shall be anchored by one of the following methods.