**PART L70**

**MAINTENANCE OF SEEDED AREAS AND LAWNS**

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**1. GENERAL**

This Part specifies the requirements for the maintenance of seeded areas and lawns, including weed eradication, grass slashing, follow-up fertiliser, repairs and lawn renovation.

The Contractor is responsible for maintenance for the period stated in the Contract.

Maintenance shall mean the continued care of the seeded areas and lawns within the Extent of Works area indicated on the Drawings or in the **Contract Specific Requirements** to promote healthy and vigorous growth by implementing accepted horticultural practices, as well as rectifying any defects that become apparent in the works under normal conditions and according to the season. On completion of the maintenance period, seeded and lawn areas shall have a healthy sward notwithstanding adverse weather conditions at the time.

The following Clauses describe maintenance work appropriate for normal conditions. The Contractor shall perform various operations to suit seasonal and/or other conditions affecting the condition of the Extent of Works area indicated on the Drawings or in the **Contract Specific Requirements**.

The Contractor shall nominate when maintenance treatments are considered necessary and shall obtain approval to proceed.

**2. WEED CONTROL**

**2.1 General**

The Contractor shall recommend methods of weed control for the project and provide details of the chemicals and application rates to be used.

**2.2 Weed Control Requirements and Responsibilities**

(a) Spot Spray

Spot spraying, involving the controlled application of suitable selective systemic or knock-down herbicide (Roundup) to a target plant, shall only be carried out where there is very low risk of non-target damage. Roundup Biactive shall be used around wetlands and waterways. The herbicide shall be used according to the manufacturer's recommended rates. Any off-target damage shall be rectified by the Contractor. Spraying shall not be carried out in windy conditions in order to avoid spray drift. Spray shall not be applied to adjacent non-target plants.

A red marking dye shall be added to the spray mix.

(b) Boom Spray

Boom spraying, involving the application of suitable selective systemic herbicide to a broad acre area, shall only be carried out where there is very low risk of non-target damage. A suitable herbicide shall be used around wetlands and waterways. The herbicide shall be used according to the manufacturer's recommended rates. Any off-target damage shall be rectified by the Contractor. Spraying shall not be carried out in windy conditions in order to avoid spray drift.

**3. PEST/DISEASE CONTROL**

Insect pests, fungus and disease shall be controlled by means of appropriate treatment.

All chemicals shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and shall be approved by the Principal. Any off-target damage shall be made good by the Contractor at the Contractor’s expense.

Refer to **Contract Specific Requirements** for pest/disease control methods.

(a) Pest/Disease Control Method Specified by Principal

The method of pest/disease control for the project shall be as specified by the Principal in the **Contract Specific Requirements**.

Chemicals and application rates required to be used for the project shall be as specified in the **Contract Specific Requirements**.

(b) Pest/Disease Control Method Recommended by Contractor

The Pesticide Schedule in the **Contract Specific Requirements** shall be completed by the Contractor as required during the Contract period recommending preferred methods of pest/disease control for the project, and chemicals and application rates to be used.

**4. CUTTING OF LAWN AND SEEDED AREAS**

The Contractor shall cut the lawn or seeded areas to 70 mm in height whenever the height reaches 200 mm.

**5. FOLLOW-UP FERTILISER**

If specified in the **Contract Specific Requirements**, 6 weeks after germination, a follow-up application of fertiliser shall be spread evenly over the entire lawn or seeded area as specified in the **Contract Specific Requirements**. Fertiliser shall not be applied to wet grass.

(a) Complete Organic

(b) Greenup Lawn Fertiliser

(c) Liquid Mix

(d) Complete D

(e) Other Soil Additives

**6. REPAIRS TO LAWN AND SEEDED AREAS**

Where lawn or seeded areas within the Extent of Works area indicated on the Drawings or in the **Contract Specific Requirements** have become damaged, defective or have died as a result of the Contractor’s operations, they shall be re-turfed or re-seeded immediately with the same variety and shall be established to healthy vigorous growth, at the Contractor’s expense.

Where lawn or seeded areas within the Extent of Works area indicated on the Drawings or in the **Contract Specific Requirements** have become damaged, defective or have died as a result of vandalism, they shall be re-turfed or re-seeded immediately with the same variety and shall be established to healthy vigorous growth, at the Principal’s expense.

All repairs shall be carried out according to **Part L15 "Lawn Establishment"**.

**7. LAWN RENOVATION**

Refer to **Contract Specific Requirements** for lawn renovation methods.

(a) Vertical Mowing

Vertical mowing shall be carried out using specialist equipment to cut grooves in the turf surface. The effect achieved is determined by the cutting depth. Very shallow settings are used to reduce close-cut turf to develop directional grain, shallow set blades are used to break up cores following coring, medium set blades are used to remove the thatch layer and deep set blades can remove soil to alleviate shallow soil compaction and seed bed preparation. Vertical mowing depth shall be as nominated in the **Contract Specific Requirements**.

(b) Coring

Coring shall be carried out using a hollow coring machine that remove soil cores, leaving a hole or cavity to a depth nominated in the **Contract Specific Requirements**. Coring of cool season lawns is generally carried out in mid-spring or early autumn and on warm season lawns late spring and summer.

(c) Slicing

Slicing shall be carried out by opening up the soil with either a knife blade or solid spike to a depth nominated in the **Contract Specific Requirements**.

(d) Topdressing

A 10 mm layer of topsoil shall be placed in areas shown on the Drawings or as specified in the Contract Specific Requirements. Topsoil shall be 80% medium grade sand 20% loam, evenly spread, lightly consolidated and levelled to provide a surface free from lumps and hollows.

If directed, Gypsum shall be mixed with the topsoil to achieve a spread rate of 1 kg per 10 square metres.

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