

1.0 GENERAL

1.1 INSPECTION

- .1 The City of Medicine Hat may, at its sole discretion, inspect all plant material at the source of supply prior to shipping to site.
- .2 Approval of plant materials at source of supply will not impair the right of the City of Medicine Hat to inspect plants upon arrival at the site or during the course of construction reject plants which have been damaged or which, in any way, do not conform to the specifications.
- .3 Inspection of material will be conducted within thirty (30) days after substantial completion of the work.
- .4 Final inspection of all plantings will be made prior to the end of the specified guarantee period.
- .5 At the time of inspection, all plants shall be alive and in a healthy, satisfactory growing condition.

1.2 REPLACEMENTS

- .1 All plant materials found dead or diseased, or not in a healthy, satisfactory growing condition, or which in any other way, do not meet the requirements of the specifications, shall be replaced by the Contractor at his own expense.
- .2 All plant material that has been damaged as a result of carelessness on the part of the Contractor shall be replaced by the Contractor at his own expense.
- .3 All required replacements shall be by plants of the same size and species as specified on the Plant List and shall be supplied and planted in accordance with the approved drawings and specifications.

2.0 PLANTING MATERIALS

2.1 PLANT MATERIALS

- .1 All plant materials shall meet the horticultural standards of the Canadian Nursery Trades Association with respect to grading and quality.
- .2 They shall be nursery grown in Alberta, under proper cultural practices as recommended by the Canadian Nursery Trades Association.

- .3 Nomenclature of specified plants shall conform to the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants and shall be in accordance with the approved scientific names given in the latest edition of Standardized Plant Names. The names of varieties not named therein are generally in conformity with the names accepted in the nursery trade.
- .4 Any plants dug from native stands, wood lots, orchards or neglected nurseries and which have not received proper cultural maintenance as advocated by the Canadian Nursery Trade Association, shall be designated as 'collected plants'.
- .5 The use of 'collected plants' will not be permitted unless approved in writing by the Project Manager.
- .6 Plants shall be true to type and structurally sound, well-branched, healthy and vigorous and free of disease, insect infestations, rodent damage, sun scald, frost cracks and other abrasions or scars to the bark. They shall be densely foliated when in leaf and have a healthy, well developed root system.
- .7 Any plant material not in accordance with specifications will be a deficiency and will be rejected by the Project Manager.
- .8 The Contractor shall be required to indicate the source of plant material and supply the Project Manager with a list of where the plant material was grown and/or purchased. The Project Manager may reject any plant material from a specific source if there is a concern related to the spread of any pests.

2.2 SUBSTITUTION

- .1 All plants shall be supplied as specified on the plant list. Substitutions will not be allowed unless approved in writing by the Project Manager.
- .2 Notice, in writing, must be supplied in a timely manner to the Project Manager when applying for substitutions.
- .3 Proof that plant species and sizes specified are unobtainable prior to making substitutions must be supplied in a timely manner.
- .4 Substitution of plants larger than specified may be permitted with no increase in contract price.

2.3 PLANTING MEDIA

.1 Materials

- .1 Peat moss - decomposed plant material, fairly elastic and homogeneous, free of decomposed colloidal residue, wood, sulphur and iron, with a pH value ranging from 6.5 to 7.5.
- .2 Sand - Clean, sharp sand passing 2 mm (.08 inches) sieve, free of impurities, chemical or organic matter.
- .2 Soil mix shall be one (1) part fertile topsoil, two (2) parts existing soil, one (1) part horticultural peat moss and one (1) part sharp sand.

2.4 DIGGING OF PLANTS

- .1 All plants shall be dug and delivered to the site as specified on the plant list. Immediately after digging, the root system shall be kept moist to prevent drying out until planted.
- .2 Container grown plants must have been grown in containers for a minimum of three months, and have established a root system which will hold the soil when removed from container.
- .3 Before removing plants from containers for planting, the plants shall be well watered to reduce injury.
- .4 All plant material in containers shall be checked to ensure that there are no encircling or girdling roots. If encircling roots are present, use a sharp knife to make two vertical cuts opposite each other on the sides of the root ball through the encircling roots.
- .5 Planting hole size shall be 150 mm (6 inches) larger than the root ball size except at the bottom. The root ball diameter shall coincide with the Canadian Nursery Trades Association specifications for nursery stock.

2.5 HANDLING OF PLANTS

- .1 Plants with broken or abraded trunks or branches are not acceptable.
- .2 Plant material are not to be lifted by the trunks.
- .3 All plants should be unloaded and checked immediately upon arrival and should be watered if necessary.

- .4 All plant material which cannot be planted immediately upon arrival shall be well protected with soil or similar material to prevent drying out or if necessary stored in a dry, weatherproof place in such a manner that their health will not be impaired. Plants shall not remain unplanted for longer than three (3) days after arrival on site.

3.0 EXECUTION

3.1 PLANTING

- .1 Plant only during periods that are normal for such work as determined by local weather conditions, to ensure success with the plant material.
- .2 Construct planting beds utilizing 600 mm of topsoil. Apply Treflan, according to manufacturer's rates and specifications, to planting bed. It must be applied by a Certified Pesticide Applicator.
- .3 The Contractor shall contact the Utility Department or Companies 48 hours prior to start of work, and coordinate the locates for all underground obstructions such as electric, gas, water, communication and irrigation lines.
- .4 After the Contractor has completed the utility locates, the Contractor shall stake the location for the shrubs and then notify the Project Manager who will then inspect the locations for the shrubs. There shall be a minimum of 3 metres (9.5 feet) away from any irrigation system components.
- .5 All shrubs shall have at least 150 mm (6.0 inches) of growing medium surrounding the sides of the root ball. Excess excavated material shall be removed from the site. Measure minimum depth of plant pit from downward side of slope when planting on incline.
- .6 Plants shall be set exactly in the centre of the pits and at the same relation to grade as originally grown.
- .7 Plant material shall be faced to give the best appearance or relationship to adjacent structures, walkways or park features.
- .8 Planting medium shall be firmly tamped in place in such a manner that the plant retains its vertical position. Particular care shall be taken to ensure that no air pockets remain under or around the roots. The planting medium shall be thoroughly watered immediately after tamping. All non-porous containers shall be removed.
- .9 Damaged or broken roots should be cut back with a sharp knife to living parts remaining.

- .10 For shrub beds in manicured turf areas: There shall be 100 mm (4 inches) of mulch placed in the beds or pits, consisting of 50 mm (2 inches) mulch supplied by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Department and topped off with 50 mm (2 inches) fine spruce or fir mulch. The mulch shall not be placed immediately adjacent to the trunk, with a minimum of 50 mm (2 inches) away from the trunk of the shrub and the mulch shall not bury any branches or crowns.
- .11 For beds in environmental reserve areas or storm ponds (i.e.) not in manicured grass areas: There shall be 150 mm (6 inches) of mulch placed in the beds or pits, consisting of mulch supplied by the Parks and Outdoor Recreation Department. The mulch shall not be placed immediately adjacent to the trunk, with a minimum of 50 mm (2 inches) away from the trunk of the shrub and the mulch shall not bury any branches or crowns.
- .12 The mulch is to be thoroughly watered after the placement of the plant material.
- .13 When constructing the beds, they shall be raised and not level with the adjacent turf. There shall be a clean 90 degree vertical edge, 75 mm (3 inches) deep, around the perimeter of the bed.

3.2 WATERING

- .1 Watering shall be carried out when required and with sufficient quantities to prevent plants and underlying growing medium from drying out.

3.3 RESTORATION

- .1 Any damage that may be caused by the Contractor, his employees, his equipment or subcontractors shall be restored to pre-construction condition at the Contractor's expense and to the satisfaction of the Project Manager.
- .2 Disposal of all excess material shall be off site in an approved disposal site.
- .3 Contractor shall broom clean pavement, concrete and sidewalks. Grass shall be raked to ensure it is free of planting materials and/or loam.
- .4 Leave site in a neat condition.

END OF SECTION