



HYDROSEEDING AND HYDROMULCHING

What is Hydroseeding and Hydromulching?

Hydroseeding is applying a slurry of water, wood fiber mulch, seed and fertilizer to prevent soil erosion and provide an environment conducive to plant growth. Hydromulching is applying a slurry of water, wood fiber mulch, and often a tackifier, to prevent soil erosion. These terms are often used interchangeably.

When is it used?

On steep, highly erosive slopes which have been partially or completely denuded of vegetation due to a land disturbance such as fire. This is a fairly expensive erosion control method which is often reserved for areas which are close to roads, bridges, homes and other structures. Use is often restricted due to lack of access roads and a nearby water supply. Slope lengths of 125 to 225 feet can be treated.

Methods and Materials:

A tank mounted truck equipped with a special pump and continuous agitation system is used. The pump forces the slurry through a top mounted discharge nozzle or discharge can be through 100 to 200 feet of hose. Tank capacities range from 1000 to 3000 gallons. Water is added first and then the wood fiber, tackifier (if used), fertilizer (if used), and seeds. Any coated seed would be loaded last. Legume seeds should be pellet inoculated with a special bacteria to stimulate the fixing of nitrogen. Seed should not be added to the slurry until immediately prior to beginning the operation and not remain in the tank more than 30 minutes. Single application hydroseeding uses 1500 to 2000 pounds of wood fiber mulch per acre with the seed and fertilizer. Split application hydroseeding and hydromulching uses 500 pounds of wood fiber mulch per acre with the seed and fertilizer in the first pass followed by an application of 1500 to 2000 pounds of wood fiber mulch per acre and tackifier (if used). Most tackifiers are applied at 100 pounds of dry ingredients per acre. Hydromulching using 500 to 1000 pounds of wood fiber mulch per acre and tackifier is often applied over loose, blown straw to tack it down. Hydromulching using 2000 to 3000 pounds of wood fiber mulch per acre and tackifier can be used for temporary protection where landscaping will be planted after the rainy season. Wood fiber is usually dyed to aid in uniform distribution, but care should be taken to ensure that concrete or painted surfaces are not stained and that plants and animals are not injured. Wood fiber has natural tackifying properties but adding a tackifier should be considered on steep slopes.

Seed Selection:

Seed and fertilizer recommendations are dependent upon the location of the area to be treated. See the **Temporary and Permanent Seeding Fact Sheets** for specific seed recommendations.



TRUCK-MOUNTED NOZZLES CAN TREAT SLOPES UP TO 125 FEET AWAY. FOR DOWNSLOPES, IT CAN REACH OUT TO 150 FEET.

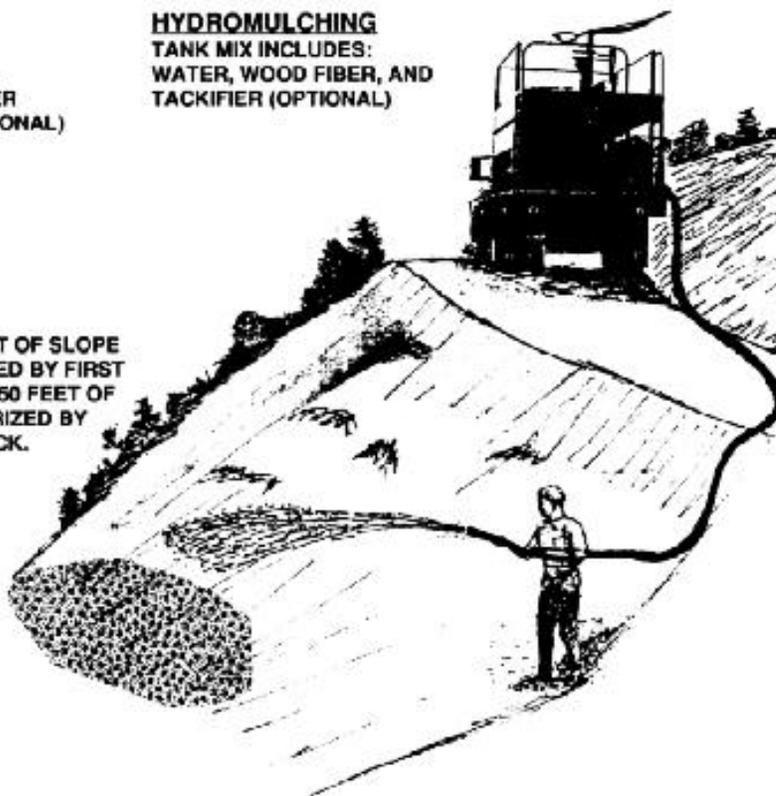
HYDROSEEDING

**TANK MIX INCLUDES:
WATER, WOOD FIBER, SEED,
FERTILIZER (OPTIONAL AFTER
FIRES) AND TACKIFIER (OPTIONAL)**

HYDROMULCHING

**TANK MIX INCLUDES:
WATER, WOOD FIBER, AND
TACKIFIER (OPTIONAL)**

**200 TO 225 FEET OF SLOPE
CAN BE TREATED BY FIRST
USING 100 TO 150 FEET OF
HOSE PRESSURIZED BY
THE TANK TRUCK.**



NOTE: After a fire many trees are weakened from burning around the base of the trunk. The **trees can fall over or blow down without warning**. Shallow rooted trees can also fall. Therefore **be extremely alert when around burned trees**.