

The Sunbelt Times

The latest in sod news, tips & tricks, and more.

In This Issue

The Importance of a Soil Sample

Landfill Work

What is Soda Apple?



p. 813-641-9855

f. 813-434-9038

e. quotes@sunbeltsod.com

w. www.sunbeltsod.com



The Importance of a Soil Sample

Many jobs we work on spec a soil sample prior to sodding or hydroseeding. Many people may not understand the importance or reasoning behind requiring this, but the benefits far outweigh the cost in having a sample tested.

Logistically speaking, a soil sample is easy to do - depending on the lab doing the testing (we have one we use if we need to do the sampling ourselves), it's as simple as taking a sample & mailing it off. The lab will do all the hard work & relay the results to you.

What those results will show is the amount of nutrients and minerals that are present in the soil. This will help to establish a proper care routine including preparation before sodding and/or hydroseeding, as well as care afterwards. If hydroseeding, we can create a custom (cont'd page 2)

The Importance of a Soil Sample (cont'd)

hydroseed mix based on the soil's needs at your specific project - we can customize the fertilizer and various additives to ensure growth by supplementing what the soil is lacking naturally.

Depending on your project's needs, you can provide us with copies of your lab's results, your engineer's requirements based on your lab's results, or ask us to do a soil sample for you.



Landfill Work



Local landfills use sod as a means of erosion control on a regular basis. The EPA regulates the maintenance of a municipal solid waste landfill to prevent pollution. As such, there are areas that are constantly being reworked, or newly filled areas that have reached its maximum capacity that must be capped and sodded in order to comply with regulations.

We have worked on a number of local landfill sites to assist with erosion control measures and compliance with EPA regulations to ensure quality control and prevent potential future pollution issues.



Do you have a landfill project coming up that you need assistance with? Don't hesitate to reach out for a quote - we are confident in our ability to not only complete the project, but as well as our ability to meet any project and insurance requirements that might be needed.

[CLICK HERE](#)



TO LEAVE US A REVIEW



Soda Apple

If you deal with sod, especially on an FDOT project, you've heard the term Soda Apple, and you may have even requested a Soda Apple Certificate from us, but you might be wondering what Soda Apple actually is.

Soda Apple is an invasive weed that is found predominately in South Florida (although it can be found statewide). It predominately infests bahia fields due to the natural growth of those fields and the lack of maintenance and preparation of them as a whole. University of Florida's IFAS extension estimates 1 million acres infested with Soda Apple in the State of Florida. The general consensus with regard to Soda Apple is that we need to stop the spread. In order to do so, we must not harvest sod from pastures that are infested. The Florida Department of Agriculture will inspect pastures and issue a certificate acknowledging that the field is free of invasive Soda Apple. FDOT requires these certificates for every bit of sod that is installed on their projects in an effort to reduce the spread and subsequent growth of the weed.

One plant is estimated to be able to produce 40,000-50,000 viable seeds per year. The fruit on a Soda Apple plant can contain 200-400 seeds per fruit with an average germination rate of 75%. Due to these numbers, a pasture can become infested with Soda Apple in as little as one to two years which results in reduced forage production & lower stocking rates.

Where do we come in? We are your local supplier of Soda Apple Free certified sod! Just let us know if you need the certificate for your next project.