

Public Realm

Master Specification

PR-LS-S1 Supply of Plant Material

Document Information

K Net Number:	13718251
Document Version:	1
Document Date:	28/6/2019
Responsible Officer:	

DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING, TRANSPORT
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Government of South Australia
Department of Planning,
Transport and Infrastructure

Document Amendment Record

Version	Change Description	Date	Endorsement record (KNet ref.)
1	Initial issue (formerly L05 Supply of Plants and Seed)	28/6/19	

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PR-LS-S1 Supply of Plant Material

1 General

- 1.1 This Part specifies the requirements for the supply of the plant material, which includes seed for direct seeding, hydroseeding and plant propagation, tubestock, general nursery stock, aquatic plants, advanced trees and associated materials such as growing media.
- 1.2 The loading, transportation, caring for and handling of plant material shall be carried out in accordance with the best horticultural practices in a manner not likely to cause damage or stress to the plant material.
- 1.3 All clauses of this Part apply unless otherwise specified in the Contract Documents.
- 1.4 If not specified in the Drawings or Design Report, the clauses in this Part shall be followed.

2 Local Provenance

- 2.1 Unless specified otherwise on the Drawings or in the Design Report, plant materials shall be obtained from local sources, with a general limit of 20 km radius around the project site. The Contractor shall supply written verification of the provenance of all plant materials from the supplier, including map and / or GPS co-ordinates for each species on the Seed / Plant Schedule.
- 2.2 Plant materials of other sources may only be used if the Contractor can demonstrate that local provenance material is not available, in which case it shall be from the nearest source practicable. The use of non-local provenance material shall be subject to prior approval from the Principal on a species by species basis.

3 Permits

- 3.1 The collection of native plant materials (seed, fruit, rhizome, cutting material, tuber and bulb) is controlled under Section 49 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972, and the propagule collector engaged by the Contractor shall obtain a valid permit for collection.
- 3.2 A permit from the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation is required to collect native plant materials from Forest Reserves, National Parks and Wildlife Reserves, Crown Land and any other land reserved for, or dedicated to public purposes, such as roadsides and local council reserves.
- 3.3 Written approval from the management authority responsible for the land shall also be obtained prior to collection of native plant materials.
- 3.4 Other conditions may be imposed which limit the amount of native plant materials to be collected, the area within which native plant materials can be collected, or the species from which native plant materials may be collected.

4 Supply of Plant Material by the Principal

- 4.1 This Clause only applies if the Principal is to supply all or part of the plant material.
- 4.2 Where plant material is to be supplied by the Principal, the following applies: Prior to taking delivery of the plant material, the Contractor shall inspect the stock in conjunction with the Principal at the Nursery to mutually agree to the acceptability of the stock and shall issue the Principal with a receipt for the acceptable plants. Two working days' notice shall be provided prior to undertaking inspection.
- 4.3 The Principal is responsible for:
 - a) inspecting the plants to ensure compliance with the plant supply specification; and
 - b) liaison with the Nursery to co-ordinate availability of the plants to satisfy the program of works.
- 4.4 The Contractor is responsible for:

- a) giving the Principal and Nursery three working days' notice prior to collecting the plants;
 - b) liaison with the Nursery to co-ordinate collection of the plants to satisfy the program of works;
and
 - c) collection and delivery of plants to site.
- 4.5 A joint inspection of plants between the Principal and the Contractor at the Nursery prior to collection shall constitute a **Hold Point**.

5 Supply of Plant Material by the Contractor

- 5.1 The Contractor shall supply and deliver the plant material specified on the Drawings or in the Design Report. The Contractor shall provide 3 working days' notice to the Principal prior to taking delivery. Where plants are to be picked up from a nursery, the Contractor shall allow for a joint inspection to take place at the nursery prior to each collection or delivery event. Any nursery(s) producing the plant material shall be certified free of disease or pathogens (in particular *Phytophthora cinnamomi*).

Tubestock and Nursery Stock plant material shall conform to the following:

- 5.2 Form and habit shall be "true to type" of the species.
- 5.3 The root system shall be sufficiently developed to support growth and shall extend throughout the container but shall not be "root bound".
- 5.4 Free from pests and diseases and shall show no evidence of having been affected by pest and disease infestations.
- 5.5 Not forced grown.
- 5.6 Shall be fully "hardened off" for 4 weeks prior to collection or delivery.
- 5.7 Shall be alive.

Advanced Trees shall conform to the following:

- 5.8 Shall be in accordance with AS 2303 "Tree Stock for Landscape Use".
- 5.9 The correct orientation (i.e. northerly aspect) of the tree must be identified in the nursery by a permanent peg embedded in the root ball 150 mm north of the centre of the stem or a red dot marked on the stem of the tree.

Growing Media shall conform to the following:

- 5.10 Sterilised and free from pests, diseases and weeds.
- 5.11 Capable of holding water and nutrients available for the plant.
- 5.12 Contain sufficient balanced nutrients to maintain healthy growth.
- 5.13 Capable of providing physical support for the root system of the developing plant.
- 5.14 When combined with the root system, forms a cohesive unit so as to remain intact when removed from the container.

Tubestock and General Nursery Stock Containers and Plant Size

- 5.15 Refer to Drawings or Design Report for plant containers and plant size.
- 5.16 Plant containers and plant sizes (measured from the soil surface to the tip of the main leader) shall comply with the following:

Container Type	Container Size	Plant Height
(a) Tubestock	150 x 50 x 50 mm	100 – 200 mm (unless a prostrate plant)

Container Type	Container Size	Plant Height
(b) General Nursery Stock	150 mm – 20 litres	200 mm – 1.5 m (unless a prostrate plant)
(c) Aquatic rubber-lines baskets	700 x 700 mm	100 – 300 mm
(d) Aquatic Flora-edge strip	500 x 50 mm	100 – 300 mm
(e) Viro-Cells	65 x 25 x 25 mm	50 – 100 mm
(f) Viro-Tubes (Hiko)	80 x 50 x 50 mm	75 – 150 mm (unless a prostrate plant)

Batching and Labelling

5.17 Plant material shall be labelled by botanical nomenclature and assembled into batches for ease of handling. Where a batch consists of only one species, one identification label shall be provided for the batch. If different species are packed within a batch, then individual units shall be labelled.

Maintenance of Plants following Collection or Delivery from the Nursery and Prior to Planting

5.18 Plant material shall not be stored in transportation vehicles following collection or delivery from the nursery. Plants stored in holding bays or temporary nurseries following collection or delivery shall remain free from moisture stress, and free from pests and diseases.

6 Hold Points

6.1 The following is a summary of Hold Points referenced in this Part:

Document Ref.	Hold Point	Response Time
4.5	Supply of plants by the Principal. Joint inspection of plants at the Nursery.	3 working days
5.1	Supply of plants by the Contractor. Joint inspection of plants at the Nursery.	3 working days