

ITEM P-155 LIME-TREATED SUBGRADE

DESCRIPTION

155-1.1 This item shall be used for soil modification that require strength gain to a specific level. This item shall consist of constructing one or more courses of a mixture of soil, lime, and water in accordance with this specification, and in conformity with the lines, grades, thicknesses, and typical cross-sections shown on the plans. *Dry placing of lime shall not be used. Slurry placement of lime will be the only acceptable method of placement.*

MATERIALS

155-2.1 Lime. Quicklime, hydrated lime, and either high-calcium dolomitic, or magnesium lime, as defined by ASTM C51, shall conform to the requirements of ASTM C977. Lime not produced from calcining limestone is not permitted.

155-2.2 Commercial lime slurry. Commercial lime slurry shall be a pumpable suspension of solids in water. The water or liquid portion of the slurry shall not contain dissolved material injurious or objectionable for the intended purpose. The solids portion of the mixture, when considered on the basis of "solids content," shall consist principally of hydrated lime of a quality and fineness sufficient to meet the following chemical composition and residue requirements.

a. Chemical composition. The "solids content" of the lime slurry shall consist of a minimum of 70%, by weight, of calcium and magnesium oxides.

b. Residue. The percent by weight of residue retained in the "solids content" of lime slurry shall conform to the following requirements:

- Residue retained on a No. 6 (3.35 µm) sieve = maximum 0.0%
- Residue retained on a No. 10 (2.00 µm) sieve = maximum 1.0%
- Residue retained on a No. 30 (600 µm) sieve = maximum 2.5%

c. Grade. Commercial lime slurry shall conform to one of the following two grades:

- Grade 1. The "dry solids content" shall be at least 31% by weight, of the slurry.
- Grade 2. The "dry solids content" shall be at least 35%, by weight, of the slurry.

d. Submittals. *The Contractor shall submit to the Engineer certified test results or manufacturer's certification on the quicklime or lime slurry mix to be used before construction. No work shall begin nor shall any lime or lime slurry be placed for payment until the contractor has submitted samples of the materials intended for use and the materials have been approved by the Engineer.*

155-2.3 Water. Water used in mixing or curing shall be from potable water sources. Other sources shall be tested in accordance with ASTM C1602 prior to use.

155-2.4 Soil. The soil for this work shall consist of on-site materials free of roots, sod, weeds, and stones larger than 2-1/2 inches and have a sulfate content of less than 0.3%.

COMPOSITION

155-3.1 Soil-lime mixture. Lime shall be applied at 8% dry unit weight of soil for the depth of subgrade treatment as shown on the plans.

155-3.2 Tolerances. At final compaction, the lime and water content for each course of subgrade treatment shall conform to the following tolerances:

TOLERANCES

Material	Tolerance
Lime	+ 0.5%
Water	+ 2%, -0%

WEATHER LIMITATIONS

155-4.1 Weather limitation. Subgrade shall not be constructed when weather conditions detrimentally affect the quality of the materials. Lime shall not be applied unless the air temperature is at least 40°F and rising. Lime shall not be applied to soils that are frozen or contain frost. Protect completed lime-treated areas by approved methods against the detrimental effects of freezing if the air temperature falls below 35°F. Remove and replace any damaged portion of the completed soil-lime treated area with new soil-lime material in accordance with this specification.

EQUIPMENT

155-5.1 Equipment. All equipment necessary to grade, scarify, spread, mix and compact the material shall be provided. The Owner's Authorized Representative (OAR) must approve the Contractor's proposed equipment prior to the start of the treatment.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS

155-6.1 General. This specification is to construct a subgrade consisting of a uniform lime mixture which shall be free from loose or segregated areas. The subgrade shall be of uniform density and moisture content, well mixed for its full depth, and have a smooth surface suitable for placing subsequent lifts. The Contractor shall be responsible to meet the above requirements.

Prior to any treatment, the subgrade shall be constructed as specified in Item P-152, Excavation, Subgrade and Embankment, and shaped to conform to the typical sections, lines, and grades as shown on the plans.

The mixing equipment must give visible indication at all times that it is cutting, pulverizing and mixing the material uniformly to the proper depth over the full width of the cut.

155-6.2 Application. Lime shall be uniformly spread only over an area where the initial mixing operations can be completed during the same work day. Lime shall not be applied when wind conditions are detrimental to proper application. A motor grader shall not be used to spread the lime. Adequate moisture shall be added to the cement/soil mixture to maintain the proper moisture content. Materials shall be handled, stored, and applied in accordance with all federal, state, and local requirements.

155-6.3 Mixing. The mixing procedure shall be as described below:

a. Preliminary mixing. The full depth of the treated subgrade shall be mixed with an approved mixing machine. Lime shall not be left exposed for more than six (6) hours. The mixing machine shall make two coverages. Water shall be added to the subgrade during mixing to provide a moisture content approximately 3% to 5% above the optimum moisture of the material and to ensure chemical reaction of the lime and subgrade. After mixing, the subgrade shall be lightly rolled to seal the surface and help prevent evaporation of moisture. The water content of the subgrade mixture shall be maintained at a moisture content above the optimum moisture content for a minimum of 4 to 24 hours or until the material becomes friable. During the mellowing period, the material shall be sprinkled as directed by the OAR.

b. Final mixing. After the required mellowing time, the material shall be uniformly mixed by approved methods. Any clods shall be reduced in size by blading, discing, harrowing, scarifying, or by the use of other approved pulverization methods. After curing, pulverize lime treated material until 100% of soil particles pass a one-inch (25.0 mm) sieve and 60% pass the No. 4 (4.75 mm) sieve when tested dry by laboratory sieves. If resultant mixture contains clods, reduce their size by scarifying, remixing, or pulverization to meet specified gradation.

155-6.4 Control Strip. The first half-day of construction shall be considered the control strip. The Contractor shall demonstrate, in the presence of the OAR, that the materials, equipment, and construction processes meet the requirements of the specification. The sequence and manner of rolling necessary to obtain specified density requirements shall be determined. Control strips that do not meet specification requirements shall be reworked, re-compacted, or removed and replaced at the Contractor's expense. Full operations shall not continue until the control strip has been accepted by the OAR. Upon acceptance of the control strip by the OAR, the Contractor shall use the same equipment, materials, and construction methods for the remainder of construction, unless adjustments made by the Contractor are approved in advance by the OAR.

155-6.5 Treatment Application and Depth Checks. The depth and amount of stabilization shall be measured by the Contractor with no less than 2 tests per day of material placed; test shall be witnessed by the OAR. Measurements shall be made in test holes excavated to show the full depth of mixing and the pH checked by spraying the side of the test hole with a pH indicator such as phenolphthalein. Phenolphthalein changes from clear to red between pH 8.3 and 10. The color change indicates the location of the bottom of the mixing zone. pH indicators other than phenolphthalein can be used to measure pH levels. If the pH is not at least 8.3 and/or if the depth of the treated subgrade is more than 1/2 inch deficient, additional lime treatment shall be added and the material remixed. The Contractor shall correct all such areas in a manner satisfactory to the OAR.

155-6.6 Compaction. Compaction of the mixture shall immediately follow the final mixing operation with the mixture compacted within 1 to 4 hours after final mixing. The material shall be at the moisture content specified in paragraph 155-3.2 during compaction. The field density of the compacted mixture shall be at least **95%** of the maximum density as specified in paragraph 155-6.10. Perform in-place density test to determine degree of compaction between 24 and 72 hours after final compaction and the 24-hour moist cure period. If the material fails to meet the density requirements, it shall be reworked to meet the density requirements. Maximum density refers to maximum dry density at optimum moisture content unless otherwise specified.

155-6.7 Finishing and curing. After the final lift or course of lime-treated subgrade has been compacted, it shall be brought to the required lines and grades in accordance with the typical sections. The completed section shall then be finished by rolling, as directed by the OAR, with a pneumatic or other suitable roller sufficiently light to prevent hairline cracking. The finished surface shall not vary more than 1/2-inch when tested with a 12-foot straightedge applied parallel with and at right angles to the pavement centerline. Any variations in excess of this tolerance shall be corrected by the Contractor at the Contractor's expense in a manner satisfactory to the OAR.

The completed section shall be moist-cured for a minimum of seven (7) days before further courses are added or any traffic is permitted, unless otherwise directed by the OAR. The final lift should not be exposed for more than 14 days without protection or the placement of a base course material.

155-6.8 Maintenance. The Contractor shall protect and maintain the lime-treated subgrade from yielding until the lime-treated subgrade is covered by placement of the next lift. When material has been exposed to excessive rain, snow, or freeze-thaw conditions, prior to placement of additional material, the Contractor shall verify that materials still meets all specification requirements. The maintenance cost shall be incidental to this item.

155-6.9 Surface tolerance. In those areas on which a subbase or base course is to be placed, the surface shall be tested for smoothness and accuracy of grade and crown. Any portion lacking the required smoothness or failing in accuracy of grade or crown shall be scarified to a depth of at least 3 inches, reshaped and re-compacted to grade until the required smoothness and accuracy are obtained and approved by the OAR. The Contractor shall perform all final smoothness and grade checks in the presence of the OAR. Any deviation in surface tolerances shall be corrected by the Contractor at the Contractor's expense.

a. Smoothness. The finished surface shall not vary more than $\pm 1/2$ inch when tested with a 12-foot straightedge applied parallel with and at right angles to the centerline. The straightedge shall be moved continuously forward at half the length of the 12-foot straightedge for the full length of each line on a 50-foot grid.

b. Grade. The grade and crown shall be measured on a 50-foot grid and shall be within ± 0.05 feet of the specified grade.

155-6.10 Acceptance sampling and testing. The lime treated subgrade shall be accepted for density and thickness on an area basis. Testing frequency shall be a minimum of one compaction and thickness test per 1000 square yards of lime treated subgrade, but not less than four (4) tests per day of production. Sampling locations will be determined on a random basis per ASTM D3665.

a. Density. All testing shall be done by the Contractor's laboratory in the presence of the OAR and density test results shall be furnished upon completion to the OAR for acceptance determination.

The field density of the compacted mixture shall be at least 95% of the maximum density of laboratory specimens prepared from samples taken from the material in place. The specimens shall be compacted and tested in accordance with ASTM D698 to determine maximum density and optimum moisture content. The in-place field density shall be determined in accordance with ASTM D6938, Procedure A, direct transmission method. If the material fails to meet the density requirements, the area represented by the failed test shall be reworked to meet the density requirements. Maximum density refers to maximum dry density at optimum moisture content unless otherwise specified.

b. Thickness. The thickness of the course shall be within ± 0 and $-1/2$ inch of the specified thickness as determined by depth tests taken by the Contractor in the presence of the OAR for each area. Where the thickness is deficient by more than $1/2$ -inch, the Contractor shall correct such areas at no additional cost. The Contractor shall replace, at his expense, material where depth tests have been taken.

155-6.11 Handling and safety. The Contractor shall obtain and enforce the lime supplier's instructions for proper safety and handling of the lime to prevent physical eye or skin contact with lime during transport or application.

REFERENCES

The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by the basic designation only.

ASTM International (ASTM)

ASTM C51	Standard Terminology Relating to Lime and Limestone (as used by the Industry)
ASTM C977	Standard Specification for Quicklime and Hydrated Lime for Soil Stabilization
ASTM C1602	Standard Specification for Mixing Water Used in the Production of Hydraulic Cement Concrete
ASTM D698	Standard Test Methods for Laboratory Compaction Characteristics of Soil Using Standard Effort (12,400 ft-lbf/ft ³) (600 kN-m/m ³)
ASTM D1556	Standard Test Method for Density and Unit Weight of Soil in Place by the Sand-Cone Method
ASTM D2487	Standard Practice for Classification of Soils for Engineering Purposes (Unified Soil Classification System)

ASTM D6938

Standard Test Method for In-Place Density and Water Content of Soil and
Soil-Aggregate by Nuclear Methods (Shallow Depth)

Software

FAARFIELD – FAA Rigid and Flexible Iterative Elastic Layered Design

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