

SP5800000 LANDSCAPING  
INTERNAL/INDUSTRY REVIEW COMMENTS

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Dan Hurtado  
(850) 414-4130

Comments: (Internal, 05-11-17)

Review Comment:

580-2.1.3 mentions the “required Certificate of Inspection” that must be provided with each shipment. What is this “Certificate of Inspection”? It’s capitalized so, it looks like a defined term.

Where does it come from?

Response:

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Melissa Hollis  
(850) 414-4182

Comments: (Internal, 05-11-17)

For documents to be “provided”, shouldn’t the text use the word “submit”, similar to all of the construction specs that were changed?

Is the “pre-work conference” the same as the “pre-construction conference”?

Response:

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Stefanie Maxwell  
(850) 414-4140

Comments: (Internal, 05-12-17)

Is the intent to have the Worksite Landscape Supervisor on site during all landscape installation, at delivery, during layout, or just available? To attend the pre-work meeting?

Response:

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Jason Russell  
(850) 414-4010

Comments: (Internal, 05-22-17)

**LANDSCAPING.**  
**(REV (4-26-17\_ (7-17))**

The following new Section is added after Section 571:

**SECTION 580**  
**LANDSCAPING**

**580-1 Description.**

Install landscaping as indicated in the Contract Documents.

**580-2 Materials.**

**580-2.1 Plants:**

**580-2.1.1 Sizes:** Small plants includes all ground covers, shrubs to less than 7 gallon, trees to less than 7 gallon, clustering type palms less than 6 foot overall height, cycads to less than 7 gallon, and incidental landscaping.

Large plants include shrubs 7 gallon or greater, trees 7 gallon or greater, all single trunk palms, and clustering type palms 6 foot overall height and greater.

**580-2.1.2 Grade Standards and Conformity with Type and Species:** Provide plant materials purchased from Florida commercial nursery stock that comply with all required inspections, grading standards, and plant regulations in accordance with the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants."

Florida commercial nursery stock is defined as plants propagated or grown at a Florida commercial nursery or imported to a Florida commercial nursery, made available for sale to the public, and included as inventory for a fee. Nursery stock purchased from outside Florida and shipped directly to the project site is not Florida commercial nursery stock. Prior to installation, provide a written certification that all nursery stock meets the requirements of this Section and

**Comments**

**Russell, Jason**  
Inconsistent with rest of sentence.

**Russell, Jason** May 15, 2017  
"to less than". Consider revising: shrubs less than or shrubs 7 gallons or less.

**LANDSCAPING.**  
**(REV (4-26-17\_ (7-17))**

The following new Section is added after Section 571:

**SECTION 580**  
**LANDSCAPING**

**580-1 Description.**

Install landscaping as indicated in the Contract Documents.

**580-2 Materials.**

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Large plants include shrubs 7 gallon or greater, trees 7 gallon or greater, all single trunk palms, and clustering type palms 6 foot overall height and greater.

**580-2.1.2 Grade Standards and Conformity with Type and Species:** Provide plant materials purchased from Florida commercial nursery stock that comply with all required inspections, grading standards, and plant regulations in accordance with the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants."

Florida commercial nursery or imported to a Florida commercial nursery, made available for sale to the public, and included as inventory for a fee. Nursery stock purchased from outside Florida and shipped directly to the project site is not Florida commercial nursery stock. Prior to installation, provide a written certification that all nursery stock meets the requirements of this Section and provide nursery invoices for all nursery stock.

Unless otherwise specified, the minimum grade for plant material is Florida No. 1 Plant materials must be the specified size and grade at the time of delivery to the site. Use only plants that are true to type and species, free of fungal infection and disease, and ensure that the plants not specifically covered by Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants" conform in type and species with the standards and designations in general acceptance by Florida nurseries. Submit a list of nurseries where plants are tagged, including contact information and location. The Engineer and Contractor may visit the nursery sites to inspect representative samples and lock tag the example plant material.

**Comments**

**Russell, Jason** May 15, 2017  
What is the intent?

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Large plants include shrubs 7 gallon or greater, trees 7 gallon or greater, all single trunk palms, and clustering type palms 6 foot overall height and greater.

**580-2.1.2 Grade Standards and Conformity with Type and Species:** Provide plant materials purchased from Florida commercial nursery stock that comply with all required inspections, grading standards, and plant regulations in accordance with the latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants."

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A minimum of two plants of each species on each shipment must be shipped with tags stating the botanical nomenclature and common name of the plant. Should discrepancies between botanical nomenclature and common name arise, the botanical name will take precedence.



**Comments**



**Russell, Jason** May 15, 2017

How does a contractor know if the plant has a fungus or disease?

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**Comments**



**Russell, Jason** May 15, 2017

Florida Department of Agriculture's "Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants."

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A minimum of two plants of each species on each shipment must be shipped with tags stating the botanical nomenclature and common name of the plant. Should discrepancies between botanical nomenclature and common name arise, the botanical name will take precedence.

**Sabal palms (Sabal palmetto)** specified as being "Regenerated Palms" shall be minimum Florida No. 1 grade unless noted otherwise. The root ball width shall be, at a minimum, equal to twice the diameter of the trunk as measured at the base. The root balls shall have new, regenerated, round-tipped roots that have emerged from the root initiation zone. Roots shall be whitish-yellow in color, have tapered ends and be present on all sides of the root ball



**Comments**



**Russell, Jason** May 15, 2017

Is this part of the FL No.1 requirements?



**Russell, Jason**

Subjective.

SP5800000

Non-Federal Aid Jobs with Landscaping. Use when requested by the DDE.

To qualify as "Regenerated Palms," **sabal palms** shall have been placed in containers or be contained within plastic fabric or film material, or approved equal, after field harvesting and during the root regeneration period. Regenerated palms shall have a minimum three fully expanded new fronds that have not been pruned. Fully expanded new fronds shall meet the minimum requirements for Excellent Leaves, as defined by the glossary of terms in latest edition of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Grades and Standards for Nursery Plants – Palms and Cycads.

**580-2.1.3 Inspection and Transporting:** Move nursery stock in accordance with all Federal and State regulations. For each shipment provide the required Certificate of Inspection.

**580-2.2 Water:** Meet the requirements of Section 983.

**580-2.3 Mulching:** Use of cypress mulch is prohibited.

**580-3 Worksite Landscape Supervisor.**

Provide a Worksite Landscape Supervisor responsible for landscape installation. The Worksite Landscape Supervisor must be a Certified Landscape Technician or Certified Landscape Contractor in accordance with the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA) located at the following URL address: <https://www.fngla.org/certifications/index.aspx>, or a State of Florida Registered Landscape Architect. Provide verification at the pre-work conference.

**580-4 Installation.**

**580-4.1 Installation Plan:** At pre-work meeting, provide an Installation Plan for review and comment. Specifically describe the methods, activities, materials, and schedule to achieve

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**580-4 Installation.**

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**580-4.2 Delivery:** All materials must be available for inspection before installation.

**580-4.3 Layout:** The location of plants as shown in the Contract documents are approximate. At no cost to the Department adjust final locations when directed by the Engineer to accommodate unforeseen field conditions or to comply with safety setbacks and requirements. Mark proposed moving limits, planting beds and individual locations of trees, palms and plants as shown in the Contract Documents for the Engineer's review, prior to excavation or planting.

Make no changes to the layout, materials or any variations of materials from the Contract Documents without the Engineer's approval.

**580-4.4 Soil Drainage:** Planting holes and beds must drain sufficiently. Notify the Engineer of drainage or percolation problems before plant installation.

**580-4.5 Planting:** Meet the requirements of the Contract Documents.

**580-4.6 Maintenance:** Maintain plant material to the equivalent visible structural, quality and health characteristics of Florida No. 1.

**580-4.7 Repair and Restoration:** Repair and restore existing areas disturbed by installation or maintenance activities. Where new turf is required to restore and repair disturbed areas, meet the requirements of Section 570.

Comments

Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
Is this part of FL No.1 requirements?



Comments

Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
Pre-construction?



580-2.2 Water: Meet the requirements of Section 580.

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#### 580-5 Disposal of Surplus Materials and Debris.

Remove from the jobsite any surplus material unless otherwise directed by the Engineer. Surplus is defined as material not needed after installation of landscaping per the Contract Documents. Upon commencement of landscaping installation, remove daily all debris from the landscape locations described in the Contract Documents.

#### Comments

 Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
Pre-Construction?

#### Comments

 Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
Materials or any variation of materials. Redundant?

580-2.2 Water: Meet the requirements of Section 570.  
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Comments

Russell, Jason  
Indefinitely?

Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
structural what?

Comments

Russell, Jason May 15, 2017  
Landscape

**Response:**

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Andres Berisiartu  
(305) 640-7433

Andres.berisiartu@dot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 05-31-17)

- 1) No mention of maintaining plant beds free of weeds and litter. 2) No Establishment Period. I would think we would want at least a 3-6 month establishment period after planting. 3) Since we don't want to extend contract time for the establishment period we should at least bring back the warranty bond requirement in order to get them to maintain/establish beyond Final Acceptance.

Response:

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Ervin Sterling  
Ervin.sterling@dot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 05-31-17)  
Subarticle 580-2.1.2, seventh (last) paragraph, second sentence: Recommend editing to read "...that must have not been...". Article 580-3 Worksite Landscape Supervisor, and Subarticle 580-4.1 Installation Plan: Recommend "...pre-construction..." rather than "pre-work".  
Subarticle 580-4.1 Installation Plan: The reference ("as described in 580-4") is unusual – recommend replacing with "as described in this Section".

Response:

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John J. Nettles  
(386) 961-7058  
John.nettles@dot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 05-31-17)  
I agree with Jeff, concerning the documentation of the origin of the Landscape plants used on FDOT Landscape Projects.

Response:

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Megan Miller  
(813) 975-4854  
Megan.miller@dot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 05-31-17)  
Please check throughout for consistency using "Florida No. 1" as there are some instances where "No." isn't capitalized. In the paragraph beginning "To qualify as...", please review and revise the second sentence. Suggest "Regenerated palms must have a minimum of three fully expanded new fronds that must not have been pruned." In 580-2.1.3, please review and consider revising to "...all Federal and State Rules and Regulations". In 580-3 and 580-4.1, please check "pre-work conference" vs. "pre-work meeting" for consistency. in 580-4.1, suggest revising to "At the pre-work meeting..." (or conference, as appropriate).

Response:

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No Name

Comments: (Industry, 05-31-17)  
Commenting on behalf of April Blackburn - Chief of Transportation Technology: Page 2, 580-2.1.2, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence – missing a period at the end of the sentence after “No. 1”  
Page 3, 580-2.1.2, last paragraph, 2nd sentence – Should read “...that must not have been pruned.”  
Page 3, 580-2.1.3, 1st paragraph, 1st sentence – should this read “...Federal and State

rules and regulations.”? Seems to be something missing. Page 3, 580-4.3, last paragraph – how will the Engineer’s approval be documented if not in writing?

Response:

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Allen Howell  
Howellal@hcflgov.net

Comments: (Industry, 06-1-17)  
Under section 580-2.1.3 Inspection and Transporting, the "Federal, State, and Rules and Regulations." is unclear as to whether the Federal and State are guidelines or regulations and what are the other Rules and Regulations. Please clarify.

Response:

\*\*\*\*\*

Bill Sears  
(954) 934-1115  
William.sears.@fdot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 06-1-17)  
Our current contracts allow Florida Fancy Grade and Medjool date palms from California to be utilized. The new specifications disallow this. Is it the intent that we no longer be allowed to obtain these trees outside of Florida for our contracts?

Response:

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No Name

Comments: (Industry, 06-1-17)  
580-2.1.2 Last paragraph- Should "or approved equal" be removed?

Response:

\*\*\*\*\*

No Name

Comments: (Industry, 06-1-17)  
580-2.1.3 Should it read "Federal, State, and Local Rules and Regulations"?

Response:

\*\*\*\*\*

No Name

Comments: (Industry, 06-5-17)

Within 580-2.1.2 - Regarding Regenerated Palms being placed in Containers or be contained within plastic fabric or film materials, or approved equal. Who approved the "or approved equal", the Contractor? Engineer? Specifications has always stated not to use "or approved equal".

Response:

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Gene Giambra  
(813) 975-6110  
Eugene.giambra@dot.state.fl.us

Comments: (Industry, 06-13-17)

580.43-21 Delivery: All materials must be available for inspection 24 hours prior to scheduled installation.

Response:

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Ken Cheek  
(386) 961-7453

Comments: (Industry, 06-22-17)

Jeff,

In reviewing the Stand Alone Spec I propose the following:

**580-2.1.2**

Removing the definition of Florida commercial nursery stock. This definition limits plant materials to the state of Florida by having them eradicating competition of any other nursery stock supplier. I justify this with the following.

1. Florida Statutes state that "Except as prohibited by applicable federal law or regulation, all plant materials shall be purchased from Florida commercial nursery stock in this state on a uniform competitive bid basis." Since there is no current Division of Plant Industry definition of "Florida commercial nursery stock" and no federal prohibition or regulation instituted I feel we are opening ourselves to liability. I am suggesting that if a Nursery Stock Dealer has NOT been prohibited by federal law yet FDOT has not only stopped them from supplying materials but instituted a quasi-definition into the Specs barring their livelihood, well it is easy to see how attorneys could get involved.
2. Division of Plant Industry has defined "nursery stock", "nurseryman" and "nursery stock dealers, plant brokers and agents" but has not defined "Florida nursery commercial stock". From what I can tell, this is an arbitrary title.

[http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/10160/137228/Brief\\_Summary\\_Info\\_Sheet\\_Rev\\_5-17.pdf](http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/10160/137228/Brief_Summary_Info_Sheet_Rev_5-17.pdf)

3. There is no direct benefit from having Phoenix species held/inspected by Florida nurseries. If anything there are serious downsides to having Phoenix palms delivered to nurseries rather than direct ship to project sites. Increased handling, off-loading and on-loading increases health risks to the palms. The additional handling and shipping will increase costs exponentially. Increasing expensive palms costs is not in the best interest of anybody but the nurseries. I believe we should be good stewards and spend taxpayer's money appropriately. Most seriously the threat of Texas Phoenix Palm Decline in central Florida is a real concern and having Phoenix palms shipped from the Stateline portals to the heart of the infected area only to ship them elsewhere in the state is unwise. Why would we take this risk? The Department of Transportation does not need to be accused of spreading a serious disease that affects palms worth thousands of dollars. Imagine the legal ramifications if a commercial development with thousands of Phoenix palms next to an interstate develops TPPD. Regardless if we were to blame, how could we defend it? Nobody even knows what the vector is so how is shipping the palms all across Florida a good idea. What would be our argument?
  
4. There was some discussion about the "spirit of the law" at the last FNGLA meeting on 6/16/17. Florida Statutes of 334.044(26) also tells the Department to develop grades and standards for landscaping materials purchased for this process. We justify not developing grades and standards to ourselves that this directive currently exists outside of FDOT. Our work has already been accomplished by Division of Plant Industry. I say we should take the same approach to "Florida commercial nursery stock". The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is the appropriate agency to define terms of Plant Inspection Information and Regulation.

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Bureaus-and-Services/Bureau-of-Plant-and-Apiary-Inspection/Plant-Inspection#overview>

I suggest the Department of Transportation does intrude in defining "Florida commercial nursery stock". This is a legal issue and clearly should be left to the Department of Agriculture.

**580-2.1.2**

Removing unnecessary language regarding Regenerated Palm rootballs.

**580-3**

Removing unnecessary language regarding Worksite Landscape Supervisor.

**580-4.6**

Revised language regarding Maintenance.

**Response:**

\*\*\*\*\*

Maria Connolly  
(954) 934-1209

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Comments: (Industry, 06-22-17)

Section 580-2.1.2 “Sabal palms (Sabal palmetto) specified as being “Regenerated Palms” as shown on the Plant schedules must be minimum Florida no. 1 grade unless noted otherwise.” For consistency change Florida no. 1 to Florida No. 1. Specification 5800000FA does not contain “as shown on the Plant schedules” – not sure that it is necessary in this sentence. Recommend that consistent language be used in both specifications. “Regenerated palms must have a minimum of three fully expanded new fronds that must not been pruned.” Specification 5800000FA states “... that have not been pruned” – recommend that consistent language be used in both specifications. Section 580-2.1.3 Change “...Federal, State, and Rules and Regulations.” to “Federal, State, and Local Rules and Regulations.” Section 580-4.1 Change “At pre-work meeting ...” to “At the pre-work meeting ...” Section 580-4.3 Change “... Contract documents ...” to “... Contract Documents ...” Section 580-4.6 Recommend changing “Maintain plant material to the equivalent visible structural, quality and health characteristics of Florida No.1.” to “Maintain plant material to the equivalent visible structural, quality and health characteristics of Florida No.1. throughout the installation phase”. It is clear from Section 580-2.1.2 that that plant material must be Florida No. 1 at time of delivery to site. However, it is not clear that it must be maintained at Florida No. 1 from the point when the plant material arrives on site but is not actually planted (may lay around for days/weeks before being planted) until final acceptance of the project. Need to clarify what’s involved in “maintenance”. Since there is no “establishment period”, installation covers the time from when the plant arrives on site until the project is final accepted which could be days, weeks, months or even years later. We need to be clear that maintenance includes all activities to keep the plant at Florida No. 1 including fertilizing, pruning, pest management, etc. as well as maintaining mulch beds, weeding, etc. Section 580-4.7 The section title is appropriate but in Specification 5800000FA the title is “Repair and Restoration”. Recommend that consistent language be used in both specifications using “Site Repair and Restoration”.

Response:

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Comments: (Industry, 06-27-17)

Provide section for definitions, e.g. final acceptance, warranty period, maintenance period, final maintenance inspection. Provide section covering delivery and storage conditions, e.g. trees covered during transport, fertilizer in unopened package, etc. Suggest additional soil testing parameters such as fertility, pH, pollutants. Suggest section with more parameters of topsoil such as peat composition, much composition, sand, pH. Recommend providing pruning standards with accompanying ANS standard. Recommend more language regarding watering. Suggest including language to maintain to site capacity. Recommend more language regarding parameters of maintenance during warranty period such as returning trees to plumb, removing and replacing dead material, repairing staking and guying, etc. as basis. Provide language regarding punchlist and completion of punchlist items before final acceptance.

Response:

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