

## HydroStraw™

### Vegetation Enhancement Technology

#### HYDROSTRAW™

##### Description

HydroStraw™ is a ground (and also available in pellet form) straw made from Kentucky Bluegrass and commonly used as a mulch to aid in **water retention and evaporation reduction to increase plant survivability** in drought prone and semi-arid environments. HydroStraw™ is available bulk dry form. This Support Practice™ is specifically designed to be used with Temporary seeding/Slope protection/Storm water blankets.

##### Function

The surface application of HydroStraw™ to any Temporary seeding/Slope protection/Storm water blanket can decrease seed germination time, the time to 70% uniform vegetated cover, and increase above ground vegetation biomass. These benefits will function to increase erosion control, slope stabilization, and success of any vegetation establishment and/or slope stabilization project. Vegetation cover has been shown to be effective at reducing moisture loss in various growing media and soils; therefore, reduced irrigation or increased survivability during dry periods may be an additional benefit to adding HydroStraw™ to Filtrex® BMPs that utilize GrowingMedia™. Independent laboratory testing conducted at the University of Georgia showed that the addition of HydroStraw™ to grass seeded Slope protection, relative to grass seeded Slope protection without HydroStraw™, reduced the number of days to seed germination by 25%, time to 70% uniform vegetated cover from 9 weeks to 8

weeks (11% reduction), time to 90% cover from 12 weeks to 10 weeks (17% reduction).

For more information on this project see Filtrex® Tech Link #3315 in the Appendix.

##### Installation

1. Where required, HydroStraw™ shall be surface applied manually or mechanically over the entire surface of Temporary seeding/Slope protection/Storm water blankets during installation.
2. HydroStraw™ may be mixed and uniformly blended with specified grass seed, and applied together in one step on a uniform coverage basis to the area where moisture retention for vegetation establishment is specified.
3. HydroStraw™ shall be applied at a rate of 90 lbs/1000 sq. ft or 4000 lbs/acre (4535 kg/ha).

##### Inspection & Maintenance

HydroStraw™ may be reapplied if application is not uniform, a large runoff event occurs prior to vegetation establishment, if dry areas appear localized on surface application, cover is not uniform, or uniform cover is less than 70%.

##### Method of Measurement

Bid items shall show measurement as HydroStraw™ + Filtrex® BMP per square ft, per square yd, per square m, per hectare, or per acre installed.



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### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For other references on this topic, including trade magazine and press coverage, visit the Filtrexx® Website at: <http://www.filtrexx.com/resourcespress.htm>.

For research reports not included in the Appendix, visit: <http://www.filtrexx.com/resourcesreports.htm>.

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