

ProGanics® BSM Proves the Perfect Solution for DOT Project in Arid Nebraska Sandhills

PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

- Nebraska DOT, Project Owner
- ASP Enterprises, Distributor
- Gross Seeding, Contractor

CHALLENGE

- Quickly restore 25 miles of highway shoulder with denuded soils in the Nebraska Sandhills.

RESULTS

- Fast establishment of hardy native vegetation effectively stabilized soil and saved the contractor time and resources thanks to ProGanics® BSM.

PRODUCTS USED

- ProGanics® Biotic Soil Media (BSM): 4,000 lb/ac (4,483 kg/ha)
- BioPrime™: 120 lb/ac (134 kg/ha)
- JumpStart™: 3.75 gal/ac (35 L/ha)
- Aqua-pHix™: 10 gal/ac (93 L/ha)

The Nebraska DOT brought in Gross Seeding to revegetate approximately 25 miles of highway shoulders from a highway widening project in and around Whitman, Nebraska. The goal was to revegetate these remote roadside areas with native grasses to prevent soil erosion and sediment runoff. The arid Nebraska Sandhills region presented unique challenges, as the site was practically devoid of topsoil, and what was available had very low organic matter (1.1%) and high pH levels (8.3). Project specifications called for a soil amendment to be applied under straw mulch and erosion control blankets.

PROFILE® DELIVERS THE OPTIMAL SOLUTION

After reviewing the site, Gross Seeding worked with Profile® Products to develop a solution using a soil amendment. After consultation, Gross Seeding chose hydraulically applied and environmentally friendly ProGanics® Biotic Soil Media (BSM) to kickstart vegetative growth. ProGanics accelerates the development of depleted soils with low organic matter, low nutrient levels and limited biological activity. It's an abundant source of organic matter and quickly modifies a site's soil chemistry to initiate long-lasting growth. Because of the arid climate, Profile prescribed BioPrime™ and JumpStart™ to accelerate germination and improve long-term plant vitality. Additionally, Gross Seeding applied Aqua-pHix™ to combat the high soil pH.

The Gross Seeding team was unfamiliar with ProGanics, but was impressed with how fast, easy and effective it was. Hydroseeded at a rate of 4,000 lb/ac (4,483 kg/ha), ProGanics was more cost-effective than compost applications, according to the Nebraska DOT District 8 Engineer. Gross Seeding was able to apply ProGanics quickly and effectively in just a few days over the 25 miles. Since the product was hydraulically applied using just one hydroseeder, fewer workers and trucks were needed on the site compared to compost installation. This also increased worker safety, which was especially important when applying product on the busy highway.

NATURAL, LASTING RESTORATION

Despite the area's challenges, ProGanics quickly went to work amending the soil to establish lasting vegetation. Ten months after installation, lush, green grass sprung up, and within a year, thick native grasses were thriving on the site. ProGanics was by far the best choice, and not only was the contractor pleased with the results, but the engineers and officials at Nebraska DOT have decided to keep working with ProGanics for future projects in Nebraska.



ProGanics® BSM application



Erosion control installation



Results 10 months after installation

