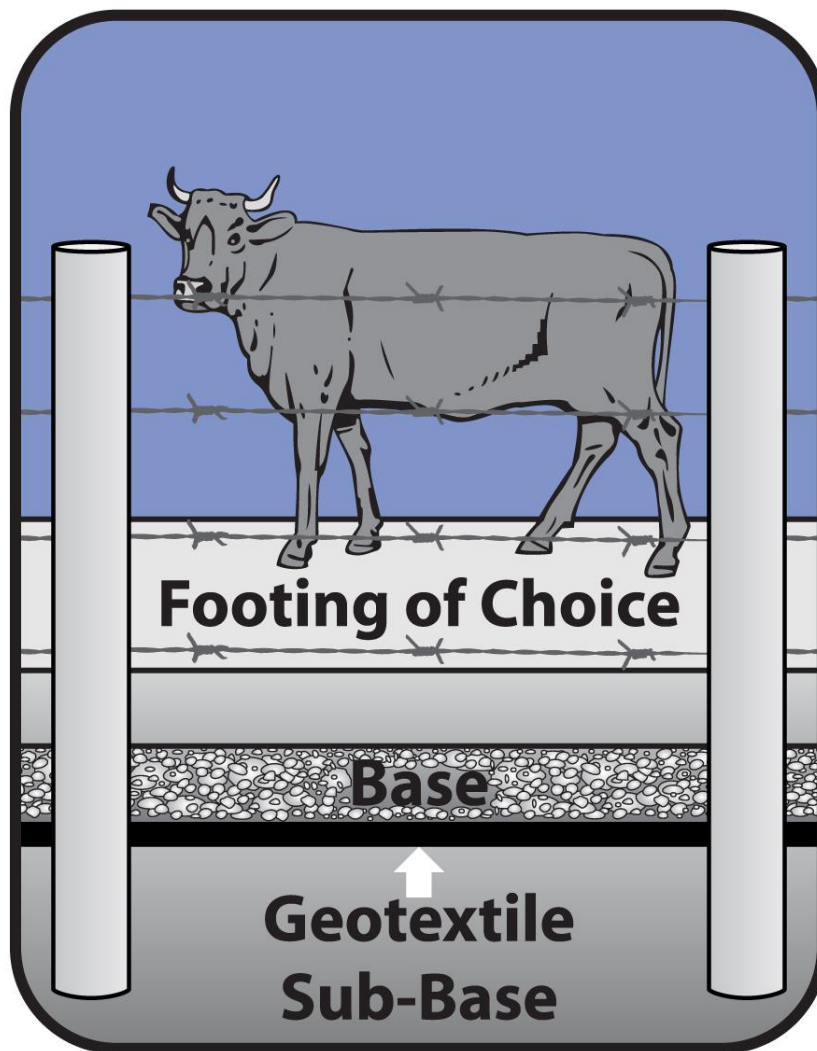




Construction Geosynthetics

Cow Carpet Feed Bunk Installation Guide

COW CARPET



1.0 General

- 1) This guideline covers general installation of Cow Carpet in feed bunks.
- 2) Where contradictions occur follow the instructions of the project engineer.

2.0 Prepare & Level Subgrade

- 1) Remove all tree stumps and any protruding objects such as large rocks.
- 2) Fill the depressions with a suitable granular material.
- 3) Grade the existing surface to provide adequate, but not excessive, surface drainage.
- 4) Excavate as shallow as possible to avoid creating an area that will hold water.
- 5) Replace pockets of very weak soils with granular fill.
- 6) For areas that consistently hold water, replace the wet pumping soils with granular fill and install a drainage system or drain tile.

3.0 Place Geotextile

- 1) Place the Cow Carpet directly on the prepared subgrade.
 - a) Roll it out flat in the roll direction, minimizing folds and creases.
 - b) Pins or staples are typically not required to hold the fabric in place.
 - i) If needed, 6 inch sod staples work well.
- 2) Overlaps
 - a) For silty clays, a 1 foot overlap is usually sufficient.
- 3) Cow carpet can be easily cut with a quality razor knife.
- 4) You can also cut the entire roll with a Sawzall equipped with a metal cutting blade.
 - a) Start your cut until you get through the top of the core and then roll the product forward to finish the cut.

4.0 Place Gravel

- 1) Place and compact the gravel.
 - a) 6 to 8 inches is typically sufficient.
 - b) For very weak subgrades, thicker lifts may be required.
- 2) The preferred placement method is to dump the stone onto the Cow Carpet and then push it further out onto the fabric.
- 3) Dump trucks and rubber-tired loaders can be driven directly on the Cow Carpet if needed.
 - a) Avoid quick stops, starts and turns.
 - b) Keep speeds less than 10 mph.
- 4) Spread the gravel in the same direction as overlaps to avoid separation between the pieces.

5.0 Type of Stone

- 1) The preferred aggregate is crushed, angular limestone ranging from 10% dust (or fines) up to 1 inch in diameter.
 - a) Some names for this type of stone are dense grade aggregate (DGA) or crusher run.
- 2) Using the finer aggregate instead of larger rock improves animal comfort and reduces the potential for foot injuries.
- 3) Sand is not recommended as it shifts easily and does not provide a firm footing.

6.0 Repair & Maintenance

- 1) Areas with manure can be periodically scraped with a skid loader or box scraper.
- 2) Any lost gravel should be replaced and the original depth of gravel maintained.
- 3) Overlap damaged areas a minimum of 3 feet in all directions.
- 4) Repairs should be made on a timely basis.

7.0 NRCS Class I Compliance

Cow Carpet meets most Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Class 1 Nonwoven Geotextile Fabric Specifications for stream crossings.

8.0 Storage

- 1) Cow Carpet rolls are wrapped in a UV protective cover.
- 2) If stored outdoors for a prolonged period, elevate the geotextile from the ground and cover with a tarpaulin or opaque plastic.
 - a) Contractor must insure rolls are adequately protected from:
 - i) Moisture
 - ii) Ultraviolet radiation
 - iii) Chemicals that are strong acids or bases
 - iv) Temperatures in excess of 140°F
 - v) Animal destruction

This material is presented for general information only. Always verify the suitability for a specific application with the project engineer. Where contradictions occur, follow the instructions of the project engineer. There is no implied or expressed warranty regarding the installation procedures or the geosynthetic products in this guide. Installation procedure and product choice is the sole responsibility of the contractor and contractor assumes all liability.