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Reducing Mud Using Highway-Type Filter Materials

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Larry W. Turner
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Several beef and dairy producers across the country have been successful in dramatically reducing mud problems without resorting to the use of expensive concrete or pavement. A load-bearing material used in the highway industry can be placed in high animal traffic areas, on mounds, around feed bunks and in "transition " areas where animals move onto or off of concrete. The materials are of two basic types; 1) geotextiles, which are a porous filter-type material, and 2) polyethelye-type plastic grid material. Costs for installing the finished surface are about one-third the cost of concrete.

Figure 1 illustrates suggested installation method. The area to be surfaced should be excavated to 6" - 8" deep. Place 4"-6" of #4 crushed limestone rock over the fabric or grid material. An additional layer of 2"-3" of fine material such as "dense grade", screened lime (greater than #200 mesh), or sand should be used to cover the rock. Care should be taken to ensure that the fabric material is placed smoothly, with few wrinkles, so that the load will be distributed evenly. A list of suppliers is given on reverse side.

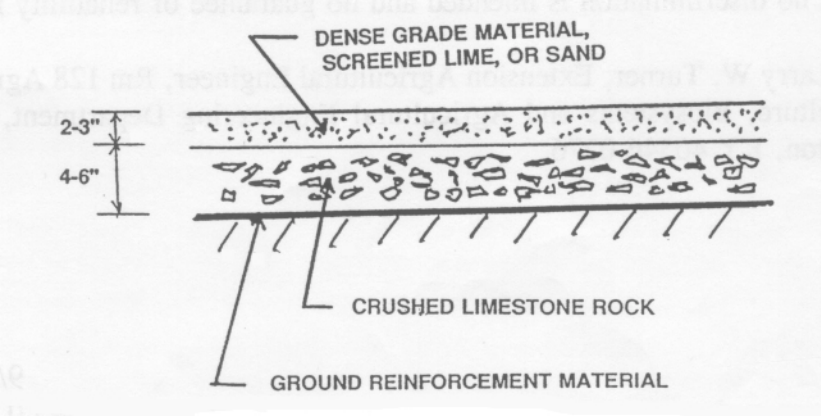

Figure 1: Suggested method for installation of ground reinforcement material.

SUPPLIERS OF GROUND REINFORCEMENT MATERIAL

Am Con Construction Products
Box 1516
Somerset, KY 42502-6416
800-866-0369

C & P Supply
PO Box 376
Allen, KY 41601
606-874-8052
FAX: 606-874-2310
(distributor for Am Con)

Cow Carpet
303-305 W Green Road
PO Box 1756
High Point, NC 27260
910-883-6624

Reemay, Inc. (Typar)
70 Old Hickory Blvd Box 511
Old Hickory, TN 37138
800-321-6271

Tensar Polytechnologies, Inc.
1210 Citizens Parkway
Morrow, GA 30260
800-292-4457

American Excelsior Co.
415 W. Seymour Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45216
513-761-7384
800-325-2135

Carthage Mills
4243 Hunt Road
Cincinnati, OH 45242
513-794-1600
FAX: 513-794-3434
800-543-4430

Kent Doke
K D Farms Inc.
Route 1 Box 34
Alachua, FL 32615
904-462-1466

TR Polymats Inc.
2263 Hoxie Road
Mannsville, NY 23661
800-633-3661

The above partial list of manufacturers and suppliers is furnished for your information, with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no guarantee of reliability implied.

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