

Product Evaluation

Product ID: 8130-2-2
Initiation Date: January 7, 2003
Revision Date: January 13, 2005
Expiry Date:

RE: Review of GeoRidge

PRODUCT

The GeoRidge is an A-shaped permeable plastic berm designed for erosion and sediment control. They are designed to replace the traditional straw bale ditch berm. The GeoRidge is developed and distributed by Nilex Inc.

VENDOR CLAIMS AND INFORMATION

CLAIMS:

The GeoRidge is a low cost portable sediment control for road ditches, channels, slopes and construction sites. Extensive testing has proven Geo-Ridge to be an effective energy dissipater for storm water channels and ditches. When used with an appropriate erosion control blanket, GeoRidge permeable berms effectively reduce water velocity and trap sediment.

DESCRIPTION:

GeoRidge is manufactured from UV resistant heavy duty plastic grid, and is strong and flexible. Erosion control blankets are used directly under the GeoRidge panels. They prevent the undermining of the panels, and encourage earliest vegetation growth. Anchors are galvanized spikes with washers, used to secure the panels on the upstream and downstream sides.

POTENTIAL USAGE:

Used in road ditches, channels, slopes and construction sites.

STANDARDS:

Nilex Inc. has developed installation instructions for the installation of GeoRidge, erosion control blankets and anchors.

ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION COMMENTS

EXPERIENCE:

Alberta Transportation has been using this product (and other synthetic barriers) as an alternative for the traditional straw bales. In general, some synthetic barriers (including GeoRidge) have failed after major rainfall events. Regular maintenance such as removal of silt build-up is required for their success.

APPLICATION STANDARDS:

Standards for the spacing and length of the synthetic barrier generally follow the same design criteria for the traditional straw bales and Alberta Transportation Erosion and Sedimentation Control Manual (2003), BMP#10. An erosion control matting is required under the GeoRidge panels.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

GeoRidge erosion control system be listed as a Proven Product under Alberta Transportation Product List, Erosion Control Systems, Ditch Blocks/Barriers – Synthetic Permeable Barriers – Proprietary, based on the information provided.

TRIAL PROJECTS

Used extensively along **Highway 43** (Whitecourt to Fox Creek) under various contracts in the last 5 years.

Fred Cheng

cc New Product Evaluation Standing Committee – Terry Willis
Roger Skirrow