

Hydromulch

Description

The application of a seed, fertilizer, wood fibre, and binder slurry using a specially built Hydroseeding Unit. This unit incorporates the seed, fertilizer, wood fibre, and binder in a slurry mixture with water, and then sprays the slurry on the area to be treated via a high pressure pump system.

Suitability

Hydromulching is the most commonly used method of revegetation of disturbed areas. Wood fibre is used in this application to provide a bulking agent for the slurry, as well as to provide a thin layer of mulch to help retain moisture and also to help promote seed germination. The binder causes the individual fibres of wood to adhere together and form a mat, and also helps to adhere the fibre and seed to the ground and minimise erosion. The wood fibre also helps to protect the treated area against erosion, as it tends to form a mat over the surface, and thus reduce runoff. Hydromulch can be applied to areas ranging from flat surfaces, up to banks 1V:1H steep. The amount of wood fibre in the slurry can also be varied to provide varying amounts of coverage and erosion protection.

Expected Growth

Growth is generally faster than for Seed Drill or Hydroseeding, but again is dependent upon local rainfall.

Relative Cost

This method is more expensive than hydroseeding, due to the inclusion of the wood fibre and binder.