

Texas Transportation Pooled Fund Project – Progress Report

Project Title: The Erosion Control Laboratory	
Project Number: TPF-5(015)	Project Manager – Name & Contact Info: John Mason, Maintenance Division, TxDOT jmason@dot.state.tx.us
Term of Current Contract: 9/1/07– 8/31/08	
Reporting Period: 3/1/2008 – 5/30/2008	
Work Performed and Progress:	
<p>This is an ongoing project thru an Interagency contract with the Texas Transportation Institute for FY2008.</p>	
<p><u>Task 1 Calibration of Test Protocols</u> Annual calibration of the laboratory equipment, sediment beds, channel lining flume, environmental chamber and greenhouses were conducted in January 2008.</p>	
<p><u>Task 2 Conduct Baseline Test of Erosion Control Materials</u> A series of baseline index test for quality control was conducted on each product evaluated in this reporting period. This included running standard index or physical property (ASTM) test.</p>	
<p><u>Task 3 Development of New Test</u> Evaluation of TRI's Bench Testing Protocol being considered by NTPEP has been constructed and evaluated. No correlation in the data was found between this protocol and large scale testing.</p>	
<p><u>Task 4 Solicit Participants for Approved Product List Testing</u> Numerous manufacturers are requesting evaluation of their erosion control products. Waiting list for testing is 12 months</p>	
<p><u>Task 5 Coordinate with national advisory panel from pooled fund</u> The Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Erosion Control Laboratory on April 23, 2008. Committee members from Nevada, Nebraska, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas were in attendance. Members discussed raising the minimum performance standards for sediment loss at the laboratory. A presentation was made by the Texas Transportation Institute on a Cost Performance Index for erosion control materials.</p>	
<p><u>Task 6 Conduct Product Testing</u> Four erosion control products were tested for slope protection. These materials were evaluated for soil sediment loss and vegetation establishment. Those meeting minimum performance standards were added to the TxDOT Approved Products List (APL) for erosion control materials. The APL is available at http://www.dot.state.tx.us/services/maintenance/erosion_control.htm .</p>	
Expenditures 2008 Contract: \$198,789.68	
Report prepared by: John Mason (TxDOT Maintenance Division)	