

MASSDOT UPLAND SEED MIX GUIDANCE

Item No	Description	Species Comments	Guidance
General Low (~3 feet)			
765.411	Short Grassland Mix	Includes red fescue	Recommended as the primary roadside native mix for use in no or limited mow areas. Best for full sun and dry soils: medians, roadsides, bikepath edges, and where little bluestem currently exists. Little bluestem is intended to be the permanent dominant grass. Includes small quantity of native forbs.
765.412	Short Grassland Mix-Sandy Soils	Includes sheep fescue	General mix recommended for infertile, sandy soils, and full sun: median and roadside edge, urban locations, and Cape medians where there will be no or limited mowing. Little bluestem and sheep fescue are intended to be dominant grasses. Sheep fescue is not native. Includes small quantity of native forbs.
765.413	Short Roadside Pollinator Meadow Mix	Includes flowers native to US but not MA	Low growing meadow mix of grasses and forbs for where pollinator habitat and flowers are desired. Little bluestem is intended to be the dominant grass. Mix composition is ~32% by weight of flowering species (US native wildflowers). MassDOT oversight during the contract and ability to manage the grassland once the contract ends is recommended. Can be modified to be all MA
765.415	Native Short Grassland Mix	100% MA native	Use when <u>all MA native</u> species are desired or required (i.e., NHESP Priority Habitat areas). Does not include species on endangered list.
765.41x	Short Custom Mix		TBD. Custom mix can be targeted to specific insects, aesthetics, or other revegetation needs. MassDOT oversight during the contract and ability to manage the grassland once the contract ends is recommended. Consult with MassDOT Landscape Design Section.
General Mid-Height (4-5 feet)			
765.421	Mid-Height Grassland Mix	100% MA native	For locations where habitat and a dense vegetated buffer and/or long term erosion control are desired, but very tall grasses are not, such as behind guardrail or where mowing may sometimes be required. Dry to mesic soils. Little bluestem and switchgrass are intended to be the dominant grasses. Has a variety of forbs for pollinator habitat.
765.423	Mid-Height Roadside Pollinator Meadow Mix	Flowers native to US but not all MA	Same as 756.421 but with higher percentage of flowering species. MassDOT oversight during seeding and ability to manage the grassland once the contract ends is recommended. US native wildflowers. Can be modified to be all MA native wildflowers.
General Tall (4-6 feet)			
765.431	Tall Grassland Mix	100% MA native	Full sun, naturalized locations where herbaceous buffer is desired to compete against invasive plants or to create a dense buffer for rivers, wetlands, or stormwater basins. Appropriate for interchange interiors or roadside locations where sight distance is not a concern and where no mowing occurs. Dry to mesic soils. Provides habitat and long term erosion control.
Wet to Dry			
765.442	Roadside Riverbank Mix	100% MA native	Consists of wide range of species for revegetation where there is a gradation of soil and conditions from dry roadside edge to wetland or streambank edge. Recommended for bridge or culvert projects or other slope conditions. Can be used for stormwater slopes and basin. Range of species tolerate dry to moist soils and part shade. Forbs provide pollinator habitat.
765.445	Low-Growing Rain Garden Mix	Flowers native to US but not all MA	TBD. MassDOT oversight during the contract and ability to manage the area once the contract ends is recommended. Consult with MassDOT Landscape Design Section.
Shade			
765.451	Part Shade Roadside Mix	Includes red fescue	Low growing mix recommended for sun and/or partially shaded general roadside locations. Range of species tolerate sun to shade and more moist conditions. May be used for conditions that include both sunny and shaded areas. Red fescue, little bluestem and switch grass intended as dominant grass depending on conditions. Species grow up to 6 feet.
765.453	Woodland Edge Shade Mix	100% MA native	Relatively low growing mix with high percentage of forbs intended for shadier and more naturalized forested edges that are infrequently or not mowed. Mix includes species adapted to moist conditions as well as species tolerant of drier soils and more sunny conditions.
Steep Slope			
765.472	Steep Slope Mid-Height Mix		Mid-height mix similar to 765.421 but with a higher percentage of grasses and includes the annual cover crop in the mix. Recommended for areas where slope stabilization is high concern, where there may be little oversight due to location, invasive plant infestation, or other difficult slope conditions. Do not use cover crop (in the mix already).
765.473	Steep Slope Tall Mix		Tall mix of warm season grasses similar to 765.431 but with a higher percentage of grasses and includes the annual cover crop in the mix. Recommended for areas where slope stabilization is high concern, where there may be little oversight due to location, invasive plant infestation, or other difficult slope conditions. Do not use cover crop (in the mix already).