

# Curlex<sup>®</sup> NetFree<sup>™</sup>

## 100% Biodegradable Erosion Control Blankets

American Excelsior Company is constantly researching new ideas to meet the needs of the ever-changing erosion control industry. Our latest innovation is Curlex NetFree - The first erosion control blanket (ECB) that does not use any netting material.

The manufacturing of Curlex NetFree begins with choosing the finest Great Lakes aspen. After the material is methodically shaved, the resulting Curlex excelsior fibers are stitched to form a continuous matrix. Biodegradable thread is used in the process, which makes the entire Curlex NetFree product biodegradable. Curlex NetFree loses the net, but keeps the unique and time proven benefits of the Curlex fiber.

### MATERIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Curlex NetFree is manufactured from Great Lakes aspen and is designed to provide protection for grass seed and topsoil from wind and water erosion, while simultaneously promoting ideal growing conditions.

### BENEFITS OF CURLEX NETFREE

- No more entrapment of wildlife or pets
- No more netting tangled in mowing equipment
- No more worries about future environmental risks - **Curlex NetFree is 100% biodegradable**
- No more tripping on netting
- No more waiting for netting to decompose

### PERFORMANCE CAPABILITIES

SLOPES      3H:1V & flatter  
CHANNELS   48 Pa (1 lb/ft<sup>2</sup>)

### TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

Golf courses, residential projects, environmentally sensitive, commercial development, highway construction, urban drainage, slope stabilization, or other areas that do not want to deal with the potential headaches associated with ECB netting.



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Earth Science Division

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### SUGGESTED SPECIFICATIONS

#### General

Fibers in Curlex NetFree shall be evenly distributed over its entire area and 80% of the fibers shall be six inches or longer with consistent thickness. Biodegradable stitching shall be used to form the continuous matrix of Curlex fibers. The blanket shall be naturally seed free and not contain any foreign weed seed, chemical additives, tackifiers, or paper products that could hinder grass growth, establish unwanted evasive weed species or shorten necessary erosion protection time periods.

#### Product

Fiber	Great Lakes Aspen Excelsior with no weed seeds. Curled, interlocking fibers with barbed edges
Fiber Size	80% of fibers a minimum of 6 in (15.2 cm) long 0.038 in wide x 0.018 in thick (0.97 mm wide x 0.46 mm thick)
Mass per Unit Area <sup>a</sup>	0.73 lb/yd <sup>2</sup> (0.40 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )
Thread Material	Biodegradable
Width	8.0 ft (2.4 m)
Length	90.0 ft (27.4 m)
Area	80.0 yd <sup>2</sup> (66.9 m <sup>2</sup> )



<sup>a</sup>Weight is based on a dry fiber weight basis at time of manufacture. Baseline moisture content of Great Lakes Aspen Excelsior is 22%.

#### Installation

Before installing Curlex NetFree blankets, the seedbed shall be inspected by the Owner's Representative to ensure it has been properly compacted and fine graded to remove any existing rills. It shall be free of obstructions, such as tree roots, projections such as stones, and other foreign objects. The contractor shall proceed when satisfactory conditions are present. After the area has been properly shaped, seeded, fertilized, and compacted, locate the start of the roll, making sure the roll is facing toward the area to be covered, and then roll out the blanket. Blankets shall be rolled out flat, even, and smooth without stretching the material then anchored to the subgrade.

**Slopes:** Curlex NetFree blankets shall be installed vertically on the slope. If more than one width is required, a minimum two to four inch overlap should be used. Secure the outer most stitch of each adjoining blanket with a common row of staples. Curlex NetFree blankets shall be trenched at the head of the slope if the blanket cannot be extended three feet over the slope crest, or if overland flow is anticipated from upslope areas.

**Channels:** Curlex NetFree blankets shall be centered to offset a seam in the middle of the waterway. They shall be installed in the same direction as the water flow. Curlex NetFree blankets shall not be installed perpendicular to the direction of flow. The adjoining blankets shall be installed away from the center of channel and overlapped. Curlex NetFree installation shall continue up the side slopes and three feet over the crest to the flat of the final grade. Flanks exposed to runoff, or sheet flow, must be protected by a check slot. Curlex NetFree shall be trenched at the start of the channel and anchored using a staggered staple pattern at end of roll overlaps and end of roll terminations.

Disclaimer: Curlex NetFree is a system for erosion control and revegetation on slopes and channels. American Excelsior Company (AEC) believes that the information contained herein to be reliable and accurate for use in erosion control and re-vegetation applications. However, since physical conditions vary from job site to job site and even within a given job site, AEC makes no performance guarantees and assumes no obligation or liability for the reliability or accuracy of information contained herein for the results, safety, or suitability of using Curlex NetFree, or for damages occurring in connection with the installation of any erosion control product whether or not made by AEC or its affiliates, except as separately and specifically made in writing. These specifications are subject to change without notice.



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