

STRAW COMPARISON MATRIX

CLASS	TYPE	CRITERIA													
		Antecedent Moisture	Availability	Ease of Clean-Up	Installed Cost Per Ha	EC Effectiveness (%)	Degradability	Length of Drying Time (hrs)	Time to Effectiveness (days)	Longevity	Mode of Application	Residual Impact	Native	Runoff Effect	Water Quality Impact
CATEGORY: STANDARD BIODEGRADABLE MULCHES (SBM)															
Straw Mulch	Wheat Straw	D	S	H	\$5,200	90-95	B	0	1	M	L/M	M		+	M
	Rice Straw	D	S	H	\$5,200 (N. Cal)	90-95	B	0	1	M	L/M	M		+	L
	Barley Straw	D	S	H	\$5,200	90-95	B	0	1	M	L/M	M		+	M
	Wheat and Barley Straw	D	S	H	\$5,200	90-95	B	0	1	M	L/M	M		+	M

 = not applicable for category, class or type
 UNK = unknown

LEGEND

Antecedent Moisture	D	Soil should be relatively dry before application
	P	Soil should be pre-wetted before application
Availability	S	A short turn-around time between order and delivery, usually 3-5 days
	M	A moderate turnaround time, between 1-2 weeks
Ease of Clean-Up	L	Require pressure washing, a strong alkali solution, or solvent to clean up
	M	Requires cleanup with water while wet; more difficult to clean up once dry
	H	May be easily removed from equipment and overspray areas by a strong stream of water
Installed Cost		Dollars per hectare
Degradability	C	Chemically degradable
	P	Photodegradable
	B	Biodegradable
Length of Drying Time		Estimated hours
Time to Effectiveness		Estimated days
Erosion Control Effectiveness		Percent reduction in soil loss over bare soil condition.
Longevity	S	1 - 3 months
	M	3 - 12 months
	L	> than 12 months

Application Mode	L	Applied by hand labor
	W	Applied by water truck
	H	Applied by hydraulic mulcher
	B	Applied by either water truck or hydraulic mulcher
	M	Applied by a mechanical method other than those listed above (e.g., straw blower)
Residual Impact	L	Projected to have a low impact on future construction activities
	M	Projected to have a moderate impact on future construction activities
	H	Projected to have a significant impact on future construction activities
Native	N	Plant or plant material native to the State of California
	E	Exotic plant not native to the State of California
Runoff Effect	+	Runoff is decreased over baseline (bare soil)
	0	No change in runoff from baseline
	-	Runoff is increased over baseline
Water Quality Impact	L	Low potential to impact water quality
	M	Moderate potential to impact water quality
	H	Higher potential to impact water quality