

TURF REINFORCEMENT MESH

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INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Farm Forestry's Turf Reinforcement Mesh is a flexible lightweight turf reinforcement mesh designed to allow trafficking on grassed areas when normally this would not be considered. Easy to install and maintain. Turf Reinforcement Mesh works best when applied to areas that are reasonably flat, even, well drained and with a well established grass growth.



The plastic mesh is applied directly on top of the grass, held in place by Plastic pegs and the grass encouraged to grow and entangle with the mesh. In the growing season, March to October generally, the mesh would be expected to have 'disappeared' into the grass and be no longer visible within 5 to 6 weeks and then open to use. A spring / early Summer installation will allow the Turf Reinforcement Mesh to obtain optimum working condition quickly. However the product can be installed and used any time of the year when allowances are made for grass growing conditions



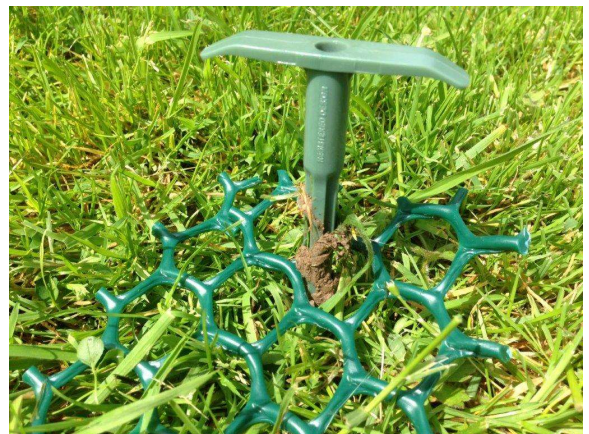
d. A strong, robust well established grass in a consolidated soil. This is needed for two main reasons. Firstly the pegs required to secure the mesh, need the grass root structure and firm soil in place, to provide a hold for the pegs. Secondly a strong grass root structure is needed to add strength to the mesh to allow the desired trafficking

Basic requirements to achieve the best results.

- a. The grass area needs to be relatively flat and no steeper than 1 in 20 fall is advisable.

The area needs to be generally even. Gentle undulations in the region are usually acceptable but abrupt ruts and raised areas will need filling in or levelling out and re-turfed. Laying turf rather than re-seeding is better as this will always allow the area to be used quicker as seeding can take a whole growing season to develop the necessary grass structure.

- b. The grassed area needs to drain reasonably well. Badly draining land at times of heavy rainfall may allow the ground to become soft and pliable underneath the reinforcement mesh. This may lead to the mesh to be compromised and not perform as expected.



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INSTALLATION GUIDELINES – Cont'd

- a. Prior to installation the grass needs to be cut short. This will help in making sure the plastic mesh lays tight against the ground to allow the swiftest entanglement of grass roots and mesh.
- b. Unroll the roll the mesh and allow to 'relax' for an hour or so to reduce any undulations in the plastic mesh.
- c. Fix the Turf Reinforcement Mesh to the existing grass at 500mm centres ensuring that the mesh is flush with the grass with minimal high areas. Fixing is provided by using plastic pegs. As a guide we suggest that for a 2m x 25m roll, that at least 100 pegs are required. The plastic pegs have been designed to fit flush with or just below the mesh so they are not a trip hazard and the grass can be safely mowed.
- d. When installing the rolls next to each other or in a row, the edges of the adjacent rolls should be overlapped by 100mm. Peg through the mesh at the overlap so the rolls are joined to each other.

GENERAL NOTES

- a. For the mesh to reach optimum working condition, the grass needs to be fully intertwined with the plastic mesh. During the growing season this is usually after about 6 to 8 weeks. Another way to gauge readiness is to start to use the mesh after 3 to 4 cuts of the grass.
- b. When the first cutting is done set the mower blades slightly higher than normal and allow the cuttings to fall back on to the mesh.

When the installed areas are ready for use, the mesh should be well intertwined with the grass roots and the sward should be less visible. Cutting of the grass can be as normal.

c. Turf Reinforcement Mesh has been designed to reach its' full working potential in the quickest time-period with areas that have an established grass structure. When it is the intention to lay the mesh in a region that is devoid of grass, and the area is going to be seeded to establish grass, time will be needed for the grass to develop a strong grass root structure before the mesh is planned to be used. This is usually a full growing season – March to October. Turf Reinforcement Mesh can still be laid on the new growing grass and the grass allowed to grow into the mesh. It would be advisable that a test is done with a peg on site to make sure the peg will stay in place as there would be no existing grass root structure to help to hold the peg in place. This can be a problem especially on sandy soils.

d. When Turf Reinforcement Mesh is installed in hot weather, the sun may cause the roll to expand and ripples to occur in the mesh. This is quite normal and the mesh will settle down as the temperature cools and the grass grows into the mesh.

e. Care must be taken when first installed prior to the mesh becoming covered and entangled by the grass as the mesh can be slippery especially when wet. It is advisable that any newly laid areas are cordoned off until the grass has 'taken over'.

