

# Plantex<sup>®</sup> Platinum

Installation guide



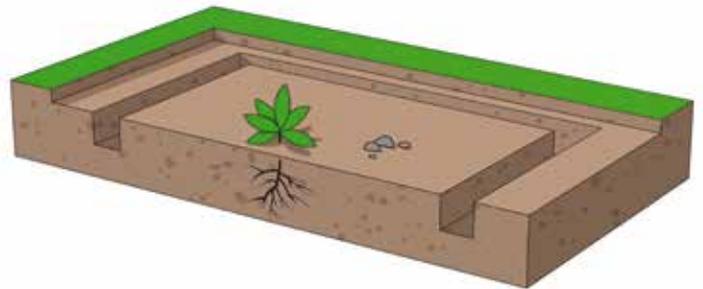
# DuPont™ Plantex® Platinum is a weed control barrier developed to fight invasive and aggressive plants such as giant hogweed, mareetail, horsetail, and especially Japanese knotweed.

## Site preparation

It is necessary to always prepare the ground before installing the fabric. It is vital that any plant material of any nature from a contaminated site is not disposed of close to the area or within any compost sites or general garden refuse facilities. The spreading of even small amounts or parts of the rhizomes will lead to further propagation. **You must refer to local guidelines for correct and safe disposal.**

1. Mark out the area to be covered and extend 3m further than the contaminated area. This additional distance is necessary to weaken the rhizomes and roots when they try to spread. If the 3m distance is not possible due to existing construction, refer to point 3.
2. Cut the plants close to the ground and shred the stems.
3. Scrape 20 cm of soil and remove.

4. Remove any sharp objects.
5. Dig an additional small trench of at least 50cm wide and 50cm deep on all sides of the border at this 3m extension to the contaminated area.



## Installation of Plantex® Platinum

The choice of installation method and selection of materials is the sole responsibility of the contractor and should be defined according to the specific conditions of the site and the filling material to be used. If the fabric is used on river banks, ballasting should be considered to avoid any washing away in the event of rising water levels.

### Important information:

- Always choose the larger roll widths for covering extensive areas so as to minimise joints between the strips
- Walk only on the boards which should be laid over the fabric
- Do not drive any vehicles over the unprotected fabric

### Installation depending on the situation of the site

In case of structures that make a 3m extension area impossible, it will depend on the nature of those existing structures, i.e., pathways, buildings etc. as to which installation method to choose:

- for installation near concrete structures such as pathways refer to point 3
- for installation near buildings or construction fundamentals refer to point 4

## 1. Installation on horizontal surface

1. Start installation by folding Plantex® Platinum into the trench.
2. Roll out the fabric to cover the installation site from one trench to the opposite trench.
3. Repeat step 1 in the second trench.
4. For larger surfaces refer to the additional welding guidelines.
5. Fill in the trenches with uncontaminated soil being careful not to damage the fabric.
6. Plantex® Platinum must always be covered with at least 20cm of gravel or soil without risk of UV penetration in order to remain effective for many years. (see the conditions of the limited product warranty on [www.plantexpro.dupont.com](http://www.plantexpro.dupont.com))



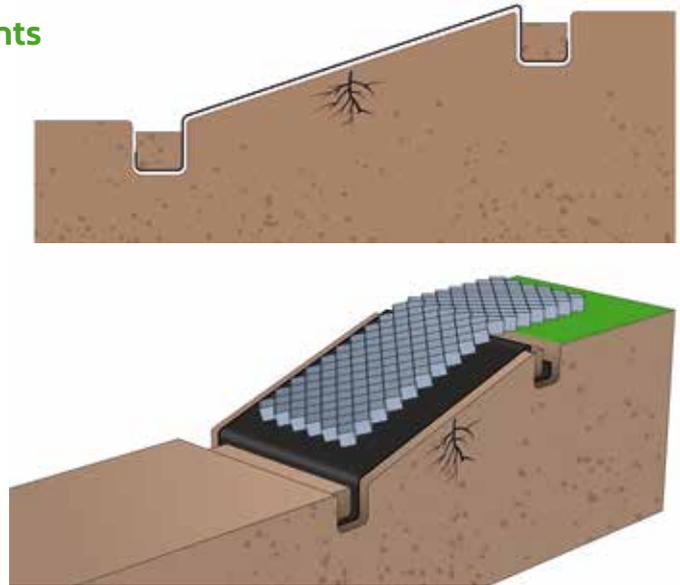
Proper use of Plantex® Platinum nonwoven fabric requires attention to the recommended installation guidelines. The product may be installed horizontally either on flat land - or on slightly sloped embankments, in which case additional considerations may be required. The joining of separate lengths should be achieved either by the DuPont recommended thermal-welding technique or by the use of Plantex® Performance Tape.

This guide primarily describes the installation of Plantex® Platinum and does not claim to describe all precautions and regulations necessary for the management of knotweed and other invasive species. Follow local guidelines for either the destruction of, or controlled disposal of any invasive alien plant material.

## 2. Installation on inclined land or embankments

**Important: it is recommended that the rolls are joined first on a flat surface, preferably on the foot of the embankment, possibly next to the contaminated area, and then the fabric is gently glided over the contaminated area, avoiding any damage.**

1. Start the installation at the top of the embankment.
2. Fold the Plantex® Platinum roll into the upper trench and continue downwards.
3. Repeat this at the bottom of the embankment.
4. Fill in the trenches without damaging the fabric.
5. Install a geocell or an erosion control mat on top of the Plantex® Platinum fabric. Extend the geocell by 50cm beyond Plantex® Platinum and fix it into the soil. Fill as planned.



## 3. Installation next to concrete structures

Often treatment areas are adjacent to structures or buildings (walls, foundations, etc.). It is therefore important to ensure proper fixing of Plantex® Platinum to the adjacent structure. This avoids the creation of a void, that could be a potential pathway for Japanese knotweed.

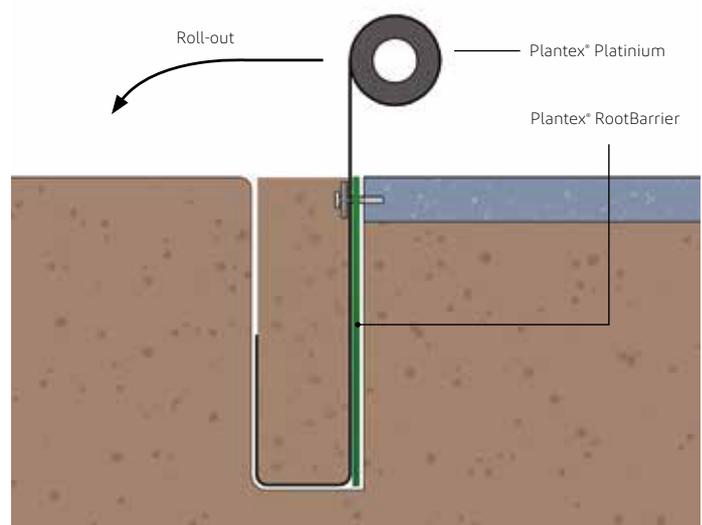
### Mechanical fixation to the structure

1. Dig out 140cm along the structure. Install trench sheeting or a shoring system before entering the trench when necessary. Note safety regulations for carrying out a trench. Roll out Plantex® RootBarrier into the trench, green side facing inwards. (In case that vertical permeability is required, first apply Plantex® RootProtector instead of Plantex® RootBarrier to the trench.)
2. Position the Plantex® Platinum roll on the pathway or concrete structure. Fold Plantex® Platinum down to the bottom of the trench.
3. Raise the fabric up onto the structure and fix it by application of a steel plate or metal fixings to the wall.
4. Roll out the fabric on the infected surface to be covered.
5. The use of an additional product such as a PU-glue, silicon or similar will improve the tightness of the joint.

### When mechanical fixing is not possible

If it is not possible to fix the product mechanically to the concrete structure, great care needs to be taken to firmly press both products

(Plantex® RootBarrier and Plantex® Platinum) against the concrete structure. In this case the likelihood of Japanese knotweed shoots growing between the Plantex® products and the concrete structure is increased. But these plants will be considerably weakened. It is necessary to dig the trench as deeply as possible to give the Japanese knotweed minimal opportunity to grow back.



## 4. Installation next to buildings and other infrastructure

When installing on contaminated sites with existing foundations and buildings, please proceed as per point 3 but without the use of Plantex® RootBarrier.

## 5. Installation on riverbanks

When Plantex® Platinum is intended to be installed close to a river bank and near or in contact with flowing water, it is recommended that ballast is added to the fabric to prevent the material from

floating. As the material is made from high grade polypropylene and therefore of lower density than water, it requires ballast to weight it down in its final position.

### Joining techniques

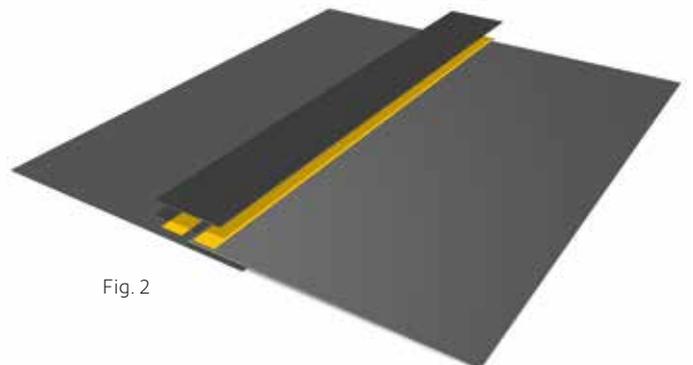
#### Thermal welding

This joining technique is the fastest and the most efficient method, and the one recommended by DuPont. By joining two layers thermally, a homogenous joint is created that will present the least risk of invasive weeds passing through. Please refer to our additional thermo-welding guideline ([www.plantexpro.dupont.com](http://www.plantexpro.dupont.com)). Repairs can be made with a patch and Plantex® Performance Tape: the patch will be installed on the the fabric, sealed with Plantex® Performance Tape.

#### Taping

This technique requires very clean bonding surfaces (free from dust, oil and moisture). Exterior temperatures can also impact the quality of the bonding. It is essential that the recommendations regarding the use of double-sided butyl tape are followed closely. DuPont offers Plantex® Performance Tape as part of its complete solution.

1. Cut a 30cm stretch of Plantex® Platinum to the required length.
2. Position Plantex® Performance Tape along the border on the lower section of fabric (Fig. 1).
3. Then apply the upper fabric section to the lower fabric section by covering the taped area completely (Fig.1).
4. Apply the Plantex® Performance Tape to both sides of the join (Fig.2).
5. Apply the 30cm stretch centred across both tapes. (Fig. 2).
6. Apply pressure using a roller to complete the bond between the two runs.



### Confinement box solution / Burial cell

The confinement box solution or burial cell is a practical way to bury soil contaminated with the roots and rhizomes of invasive weeds and plants, if local regulations and conditions permit. The concept of a confinement box or burial cell is to dig a pit and line it with Plantex® RootProtector. The contaminated soil is then poured into the lined pit. The Plantex® RootProtector lining will prevent the spreading of

the rhizomes and contain them within the pit. The pit is then covered and sealed with Plantex® Platinum to prevent the plants from penetrating to the surface and growing again. For this method, it is always necessary to consult with an appropriate engineering office and to follow local regulations. Contact a DuPont representative for installation guidance.

PLEASE NOTE: The illustrations in this document may not be 100% accurate and do not necessarily show each and every important step to installation, so please also read and follow the instructions carefully.



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