

Plantex[®] Landscape solutions

Installation recommendations for sloping ground





Application:

Weed control on sloping ground preventing soil erosion.

Products:

Plantex® Gold - Plantex® Cocomat

DuPont™ Plantex® Gold and DuPont™ Plantex® Cocomat are the ideal weed control solutions for steeply inclined locations where it may be either impractical or impossible to cover the ground with a layer of mulch. Offering superior performance together with the aesthetic advantage of a natural 'earth' colour, these products can be installed on sloping ground without the need for an extra mulch layer. Both products also help to limit soil erosion during periods of heavy rain. For the best results, the following guidelines should be observed when installing Plantex® Gold and Plantex® Cocomat on sloping ground:

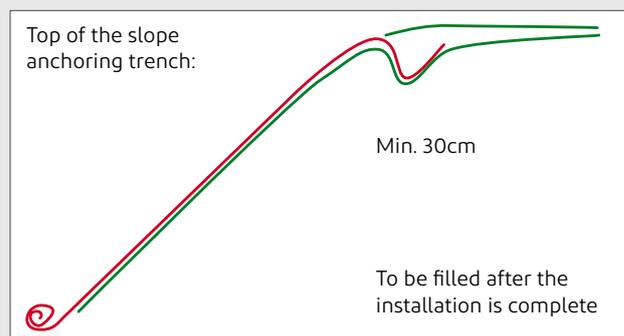
- Prepare the area for installation
- Remove existing weeds by mechanical means
- Level the soil by removing large stones, roots or old stems so that the fabrics can lay flat
- Fix the sheets with a few long pins at the top end of the slope and unroll to the bottom
- Allow the product edges to overlap for at least 10 -15 cm. This prevents any infiltration of light between the adjacent layers of the product
- Pin the product down firmly around all edges at regular intervals with suitable hooks. We recommend using two pins per running metre. For soft soils, DuPont offers Plantex® Pins (metal) or Biopins (renewably sourced plastic pins)
- Do not walk over the fabrics if the incline is steeper than 30° (or 57%). Instead, lay a ladder over the fabric that has been fixed to the slope to support any movement up or down during installation (even on inclines of less than 30° be very careful when walking over Plantex® Gold as the product has less slip resistance than natural soil)

The type, length and number of fixing pins will depend on the installation parameters:

- Steepness of the slope
- Proposed planting
- Wind load and wind direction

In case no planting has been planned, the sheets should be fixed in the middle with additional heavy duty pins, to prevent fluttering in windy conditions. Be aware of the lifting forces on a downwind slope (lee side) It is generally good practice to stabilise a slope by planting the ground with a covering of perennial shrubs. Where such planting is planned it is not necessary to fix Plantex® products with pins in the middle of the sheets. Usually within a couple of years the shrubs will completely cover the ground, helping to protect against soil erosion. If an immediately natural looking coverage is desired, the recommended product is Plantex® Cocomat, which combines highly effective weed control with subtle, natural aesthetics.

For very steep slopes (higher than 45° or 100%), and if the subsoil is too rocky to hammer in fixing pins, we recommend that the product is fixed at the top of the slope with an anchoring trench of a minimum of 30 cm deep. This method should allow the sheet to yield to any downward forces during the installation phase. Then the trench should be firmly filled and covered over once installation is complete.



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