

FARM FORESTRY CO Ltd

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SHELTERS

DIAMOND FINE MESH SHELTERS 60cm and 75cm

Usage - Primarily used on larger conifers and shrubs.

Support – Designed to be supported with two or three heavy weight canes, placed inside, 3ft 14/16lb or if exposed, 3ft 16/18lb canes are recommended for 60cm shelters.

For 75cm, 170mm Diamond Fine Mesh use 3ft 6" 16/18lbs or 3ft 6" 18/20lb canes. If soft ground 4ft 18/20lb or 22/24lb may be preferred.

If stakes are required, Diamond Fine Mesh Shelters **MUST** be used with **TWO** stakes, otherwise the shelter will go flat. 90cm 25/25mm or 90cm 32mm/32mm stakes are best.

A - PREPARATION, Plant shrub or tree after levelling site, and removing any major vegetation or debris. A small plateau is needed immediately around the tree if steep ground. This will also help moisture retention so as to catch rain water.

B - SUPPORT, Push **one** cane in the ground, as deep as possible, about 100mm from the tree, open shelter out using two hands and place over the cane and the tree.

Place the **second** cane inside the shelter at the right distance from the first cane so that the shelter is opened out fully, but not under strain. If both canes are installed together at the same time and the shelter placed over them, very often the canes will be too far apart, and the shelter will be stretched and go 'Flat'!

The shelter should be turned so that the canes open out the shelter fully, the shelter has two folds only following packaging.

C – FIXING - If Small Numbers, A 140mm long ratchet tie can be pushed through the mesh on one side only, so as to trap one cane just under a nodule. This will prevent the shelter rising up the canes if windy or as the tree / shrub grows. Fixing on one side only is sufficient and will make 'beating up' losses much easier.

If Larger Numbers, A Rapid R36 staple Gun with 14mm staples will staple into bamboo canes. The staple does not need to go all the way in. One staple into one of the two canes is sufficient. Using one staple makes 'beating up' when replacing losses a lot easier. Tension the shelter by pushing downwards at the moment of stapling, this will prevent a gap appearing at the shelter bottom if the ground settles after planting.

(A Rapid **R34** staple gun can be used for stapling into stakes and is cheaper than an R36)

Routine Maintenance – Canes or stakes should be removed from fine mesh shelters prior to stem breakout, and before any possible damage occurs. The Shelter should be removed later from around the tree prior to any damage occurring.