

Australian Standard™

Synthetic weed blocking fabric

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee TX-008, Textiles for Horticulture and Agriculture.

In seeking to provide minimum requirements for products which will perform efficiently over a reasonable period of use, this Standard covers the attributes of light blocking, permeability, UV stability, tensile strength, tear strength, and resistance to puncture. The attribute of chemical resistance has not been included in the minimum requirements. While it is accepted that chemical resistance is an important issue, the variety of substances to which the fabric could be subjected in chemical spraying would make it inappropriate to choose any particular substance to which the fabric must be exposed in a test in the Standard and to set a minimum requirement for an end result for that test. Biodegradability is another issue which is not covered, for the reason that it is not usually an attribute required in these synthetic materials.

Users requiring to know the performance of a fabric in respect of chemical resistance or biodegradability are advised of appropriate test methods.

The results used to determine the minimum requirements were based on products already available and known to perform adequately.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

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FOREWORD

The function of weedblocking fabric is to retard weed growth. However, it will not prevent all growth occurring. It is designed to be used in domestic and commercial applications and the performance requirements set out in this Standard are criteria for both styles of fabric. In some particular commercial applications, a more robust fabric is required which will have higher performance requirements than those specified in this Standard.

Woven weed block fabric is designed and manufactured to be more robust and resistant to UV degradation than non-woven fabric, and can be used with or without a covering of organic or inorganic mulch.

Non-woven weed block fabric is designed and manufactured for greater water permeability and should be used with a covering of organic or inorganic mulch.

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