

# NexGen Spiral Guard Introduction



Plant and cane sold separately

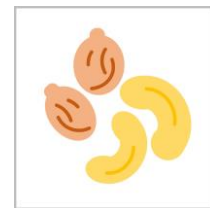
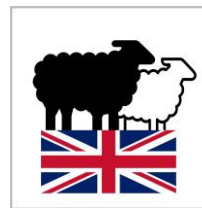


**The 100% biodegradable spiral guard from NexGen delivers protection for young trees, nurturing healthy growth, leaving only a positive environmental legacy.**

NexGen spiral guards can help you replace the use of PVC and plastic spiral guards with a viable, environmentally friendly alternative.

The man behind the innovation is Gary Hurlstone, whose father Graham invented the Tubex Tree Shelter in the mid 1980's. Gary took his father's 35 year old design and set out to deliver a range of protection that performs at least as well, whilst being environmentally friendly and cost effective.

The spiral guards are made from a special mix of British wool, a biodegradable polyol (made from ethically sourced cashew nutshell liquid and castor oil), and an innovative biodegradable custom polymer.



At its heart is a simple concept that has taken four years of extensive research and development, working with foresters, landowners and industry experts, to deliver the next generation in tree protection.

Scientifically proven as 100% biodegradable this is a spiral guard that delivers the perfect environment for young tree plants to thrive in, without harming the environment.

### Benefits

- Protects from browsing animals and creates a microclimate to promote healthy growth
- Easy installation
- 100% biodegradable – no need for collection & recycling

### Installation

Plant bare root or cell grown seedling and insert cane next to plant. Place spiral guard over or wrap around both the plant and cane (ie cane on the inside of the spiral). See installation diagrams (pg 4) for more information.

## Specifications:

Dimensions
Height m
Diameter mm
Number of ties
Average weight/tube g
Packaging
Nest
Bundle
Bag or box

NexGen Spiral Guard	
Height m	0.6
Diameter mm	40
Number of ties	Not required
Average weight/tube g	tbc
NexGen Spiral Guard	
Nest	5
Bundle	250 (tbc)
Bag or box	Compostable box

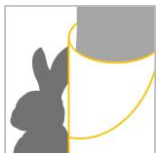
Material	
Tube	British wool + biodegradable polyols
Tie	NA
Tube colour	Natural
Service life	Minimum 5 years
Biodegradable	Yes
End of life	Leave in situ to biodegrade
Recycling options	Compostable outer box
Recommended support	Cane

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# NexGen Spiral Guard Features & Benefits

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## Plant Welfare



### Animal protection

Protects young plants from rabbits and small browsing animals.

## Lifespan



### 5 years protection

Confirmed by independent weathering certification\* (depending on location, tree canopy, soil & microbes).

## Installation



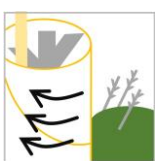
### Compostable boxes

In compostable cardboard boxes for ease of transport and handling.



### Micro-environment

Ideal light transparency and spectrum to support photosynthesis and photomorphogenesis (plant form).



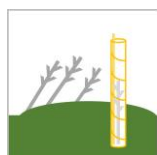
### Strong recoil

To ensure spiral guard stays on the plant in windy conditions.



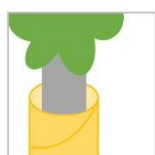
### Nested

For ease of movement around site.



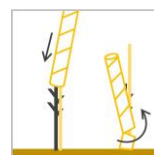
### Wind protection

Delivers wind break effect, protecting plants on exposed sites.



### Natural colour

The colour changes over time blending into the natural environment with no loss of performance.



### Easy to install

Drop over a slim plant or wrap around a more bushy species.



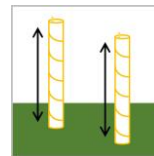
### Spiral / Coiled design

Expands with the growth of the tree.



### Supports biodiversity

Over time, mosses and lichens grow on the spirals, supporting a rich biodiversity.



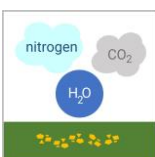
### Longitudinally rigid

Meaning NexGen spiral guards retain their full height.



### Auto tree release

The spiral biodegrades to allow the tree to break free, avoiding any risk of strangulation.



### No impact on environment

Breaks down as H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub> and nitrogen, becoming a form of 'bug food'.

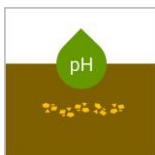


### Can be left in situ

Especially useful when creating hedgerows (removing plastic spirals can be a challenge).

\* "After extensive testing Impact Solutions can confirm that the NexGen unique combination of materials will biodegrade. At around 5 years the tree shelters will start to break down resulting in neutral pH and ecotoxicity, and will become food for micro-organisms."

Steven Burns  
Impact Solutions, Scotland



### pH and ecotoxicity neutral

Does not change soil pH levels when breaking down.



### No removal needed

Save money – no collection or recycling needed.



### 100% biodegradable

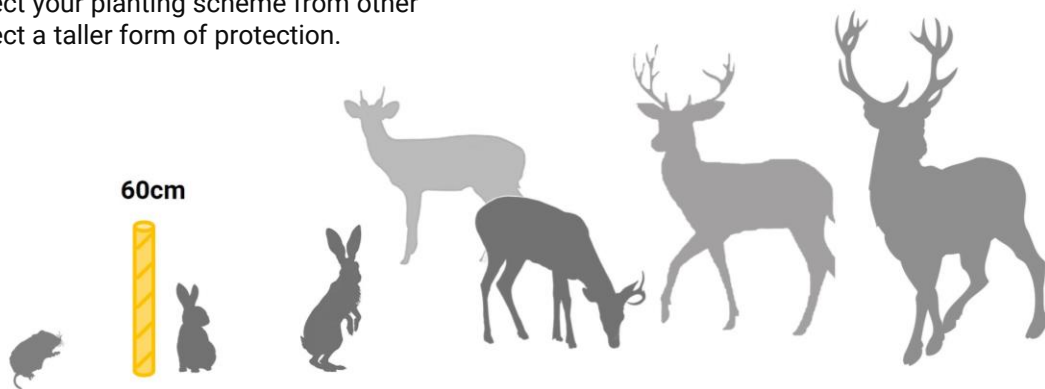
Because of the materials used, the NexGen range is 100% biodegradable.

# NexGen Spiral Guard Range Choices

## Height


Identify which damaging agent (animal) you wish to protect your plants from. This will influence the height of your protection. NexGen 60cm spiral guards can help protect against rabbits.

Should you wish to protect your planting scheme from other animals then please select a taller form of protection.



Protecting against	Vole	Rabbit	Hare	Muntjac / Roe Deer	Fallow Deer	Red Deer
Minimum height of tube for protection	20cm	60cm	75cm	1.20m	1.50m	1.80m
Height of supporting (cane) or stake	Not required	90cm (cane)	90cm	1.20m or 1.35m	1.50m	1.80m

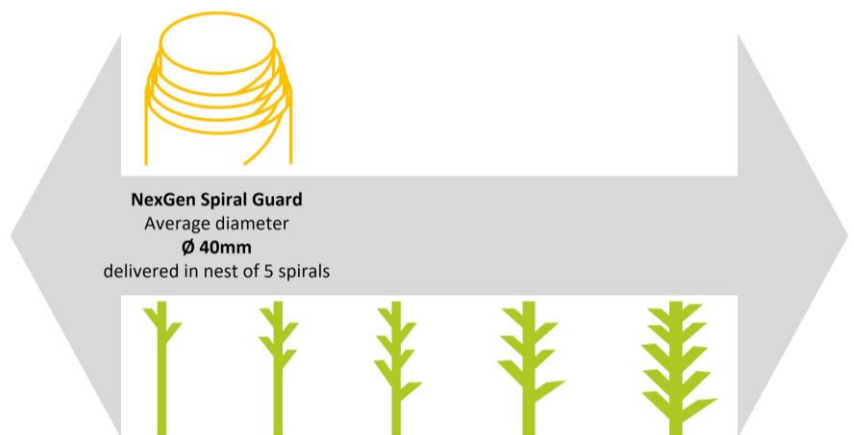
\* It is advisable to use a longer cane for sandier, lighter soils.

NexGen Spiral Guard Available Sizes 

## Diameter

NexGen spiral guards are nested (one inside the other), to save space and time when moving plant protection around a site.

NexGen spiral guards are (on average) 40mm diameter and as such are suitable for slim seedlings (ie not shrubs).



# NexGen Spiral Guard Installation

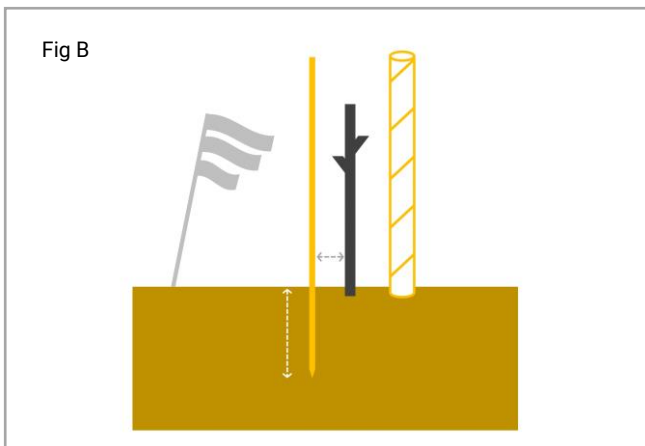
## PLANT

Planting bare root or cell grown plants is a straightforward task, however, do not attempt to plant if the ground is frozen or waterlogged. Find a suitable position for your plants, bearing in mind future growth and potential height and spread at maturity.

Bare rooted or cell grown plants can be 'notch' planted in 3 steps (Fig A):

1. Begin by inserting the blade of a spade into the ground. Push the spade handle away from you and then bring it back towards you. Once you remove the spade, you will see that you have created a cavity or 'notch' in the ground.
2. **For bare root** - place the plant roots within the cavity and shake to ensure that all of the roots are in the cavity and pointing downwards. **For cell grown** - place the cell gently into the ground. Ensure the top of the plug (the soil surrounding the roots) is positioned at 2 to 4cm below the surface to avoid drying out.
3. Fill the cavity with soil. Use your heel to firm the soil around the plant to remove any air pockets. Once planted, give them a good water if practical to do so.

You are now ready to install your support and protection.



## SUPPORT

1. After planting, position the cane on the windward side if there are strong prevailing winds, and between 2cm to 5cm from the base of the plant (Fig B).
2. Press the cane into the ground (ideally knocking 1/3 of its height into the ground). Ensure it is vertical (particularly important on sloping ground).

## PROTECT

1. NexGen spiral guards can be installed by **feeding over the top** of the plant and cane - taking care not to damage any stems. Alternatively they can be **wrapped around** the plant from the base up. This is particularly useful for slightly broader seedlings (see Fig C).
2. You can leave NexGen spiral guards in situ because they will biodegrade.

