

NexGen Vole Guard Introduction



GUIDE ONLY

For more Warranty information see pages 5 and 6.

Plant sold separately



GUIDE ONLY

A great solution for protection from voles that is 100% biodegradable, ensuring a positive environmental legacy.

Every year thousands of trees are killed by vole and mice. NexGen vole guards can help you replace the use of plastic vole guards with a viable, environmentally friendly alternative, that includes a 5 year warranty.

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 NexGen vole 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 vole guards.

Scientifically proven as 100% biodegradable, the wrap around design means they are easily installed and can be left in situ, especially useful in overgrown areas where voles are found.

Benefits

- Protects from voles & mice
- Easy installation – no support needed
- 100% biodegradable – no need for collection & recycling

Installation

Separate from nest of 3 guards, gently open and wrap around the base of the tree. Push the guard into the soil slightly to create an effective barrier against vole and mice damage.

Note – no support is required if installed correctly, however should you wish to provide your young tree plant & vole guard with extra support then we recommend using a cane.

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 Vole Guard
0.2
40
Not required
tbc
NexGen Vole Guard
3
300
Compostable box

Material
Tube
Tie
Tube colour
Service life
Biodegradable
End of life
Recycling options
Recommended support

NexGen Vole Guard
British wool + biodegradable polyols
NA
Natural
Minimum 5 years
Yes
Leave in situ to biodegrade
Compostable outer box
If required (for very young plants) - cane

NexGen Vole Guard Features & Benefits

Plant Welfare



Animal protection
Protects young plants against damage from vole and mice.



Vertical split / Coiled design
Expands with the growth of the tree.



Auto tree release
After 5 years, the vole guard biodegrades to allow the tree to release itself.

Lifespan



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



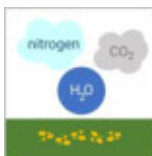
Strong recoil
To ensure vole guards stays on the tree in windy conditions.



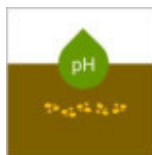
Natural colour
The colour changes over time blending into the natural environment with no loss of performance.



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



No impact on environment
Breaks down as H₂O, CO₂ and nitrogen, becoming a form of 'bug food'.



pH and ecotoxicity neutral
Does not change soil pH levels when breaking down.



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

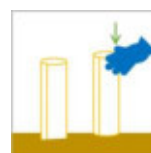
Installation



Compostable boxes
In compostable cardboard boxes for ease of transport and handling.



Nested
For ease of movement around site.



Longitudinally rigid
Meaning the vole guard can be pushed into the soil, discouraging burrowing animals.



Can be left in situ
Especially useful in overgrown areas where voles are found.



No removal needed
Save money – no collection or recycling needed.

* "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

NexGen Vole Guard Range Choices


Height

Vole Guards (as the name suggests) will help protect established planting schemes from voles. They will not protect against animals that are taller than voles.

Should you wish to protect your planting scheme from other animals then please select a taller form of protection along with the relevant supporting stake.



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 stake	Not required	75cm	90cm	1.20m or 1.35m	1.50m	1.80m

NexGen Vole Guard Available Sizes 



NexGen Vole Guard Installation

Installation

For young established trees (no cane support)

1. Remove guard from it's nest of 3 guards (fig 1).
2. Gently open and wrap around the base of young tree (fig 2), allowing the coil to wrap back over on itself (fig 3).
3. Push guard 1cm to 2cm into the soil to create a barrier for vole and mice, and to help hold the guard in place (fig 4).
4. Leave in situ to biodegrade.

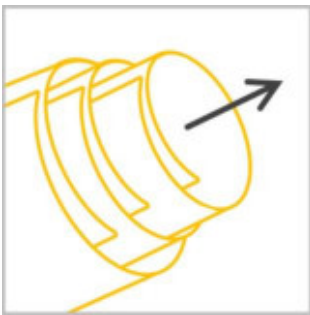


Fig 1

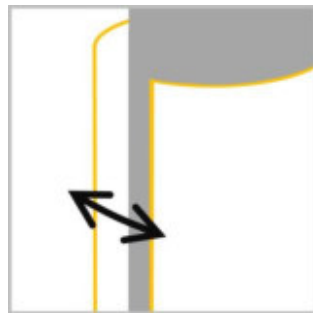


Fig 2

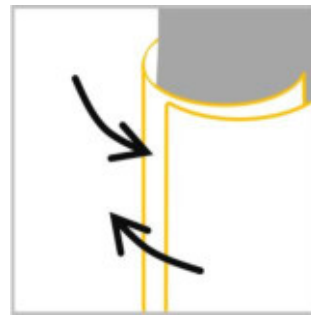


Fig 3

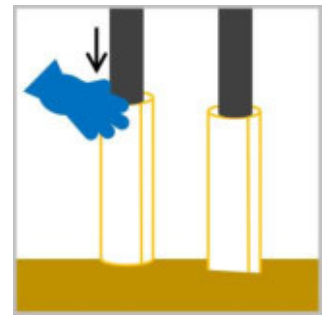


Fig 4

For younger plants that may require support (with cane)

1. Having planted your transplant or seedling, gently push a cane into the ground next to it (see fig 5), about 2cm away from base of stem.
2. Remove guard from it's nest of 3 guards.
3. Open the guard and wrap around **both** the cane and the plant, allowing the coil to wrap back over itself.
4. Push guard 1cm to 2cm into the soil to create a barrier for vole and mice, and to help hold the guard in place.
5. Leave in situ to biodegrade.

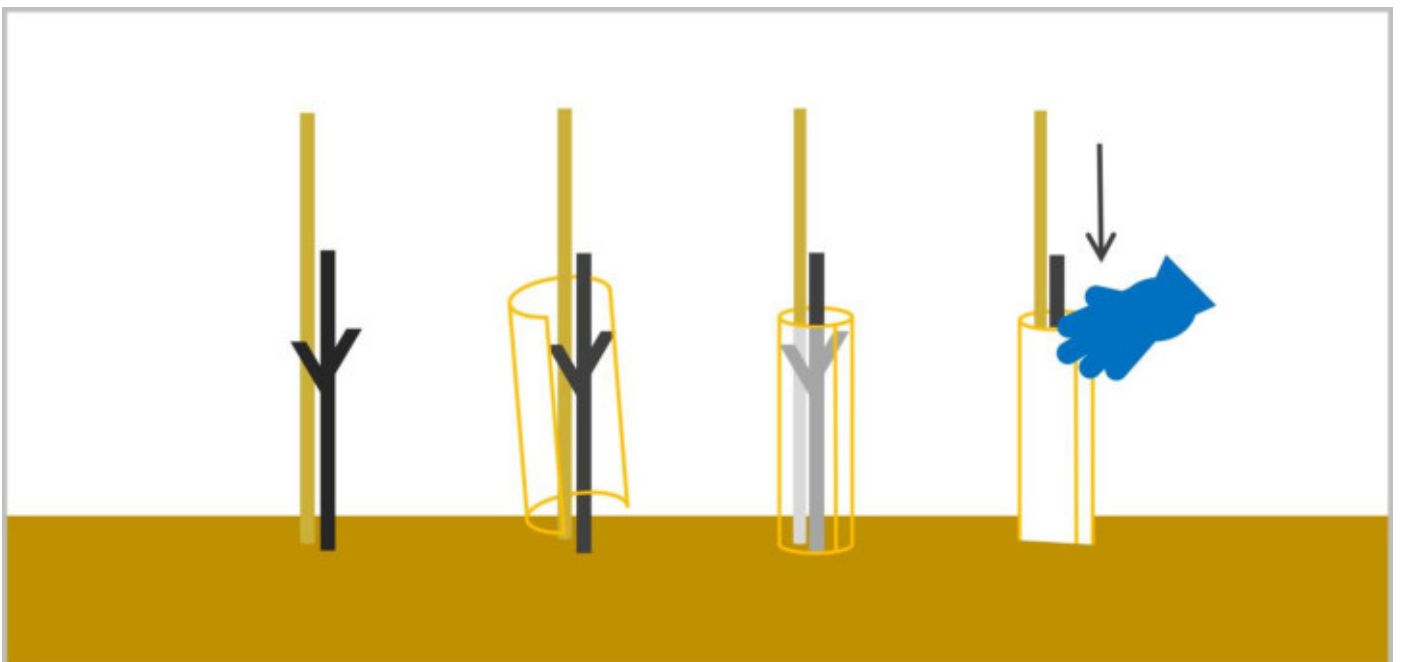


Fig 5



1 WARRANTY AND APPLICATION OF WARRANTY

1.1 Subject to the terms and conditions of this Warranty Schedule and of the NexGen Conditions of Sale, NexGen warrants that the base material used to manufacture each [NexGen Tree Shelter] shall, for a period of five (5) years from the date of installation of each NexGen Tree Shelter (the **Warranty Period**), continue to function in accordance with the specification provided by NexGen.

1.2 The Warranty in clause 1.1 above applies only to NexGen Tree Shelters installed by (or on behalf of) the Buyer at sites in the United Kingdom between 1 October 2022 and 31 May 2023.

2 CONDITIONS

The Warranty in clause 1.1 is conditional upon and shall only apply if the Buyer:

2.1 installs each NexGen Tree Shelter:

2.1.1 at the relevant site within one (1) month of Delivery;

2.1.2 in accordance with good forestry practice (viewed in NexGen's reasonable opinion), with particular attention paid to the strength and durability of the stake and the orientation of the stake in relation to prevailing winds; and

2.1.3 such that the base of the NexGen Tree Shelter is pushed into the ground by at least 1 inch to prevent accidental ingress of herbicide and to discourage voles/mice from entering the NexGen Tree Shelter;

2.2 ensures that any hand and mechanical processes (including, without limit, weeding) are only carried out where blades/trimmer cords are prevented from coming into contact with the base of the NexGen Tree Shelter; and

2.3 ensures that, in placing its order for the NexGen Tree Shelters, it selects the correct height NexGen Tree Shelter as may be applicable for potential browsing animals at the installation site.

3 EXCLUSIONS

NexGen will not be deemed to be in breach of the Warranty in clause 1.1 if the base material used to manufacture each [NexGen Tree Shelter] does not, during the Warranty Period, function in accordance with the specification provided by NexGen as a result of:

3.1 damage caused by:

3.1.1 physical processes undertaken by the Buyer, such as mechanical weeding;

3.1.2 animal activity, including deer fraying, sheep rubbing etc;

3.1.3 a failure by the Buyer to comply with clause 2 of this Warranty Schedule;

3.1.4 freak weather conditions, such as violent storms/floods, heavy snow, landslips, fire etc;

3.1.5 subjecting the relevant NexGen Tree Shelters to unusual physical stress, site conditions or ground stability (viewed in NexGen's reasonable opinion);

3.1.6 the operation of any equipment or other plant items of the Buyer; or

3.1.7 accidental or deliberate destruction of or damage to the relevant NexGen Tree Shelters;

3.2 any use by the Buyer or a third party of the NexGen Tree Shelters other than for the purpose for which they were intended, or any act or omission of the Buyer or any third party or failure to follow the instructions of NexGen;

3.3 any modification, adjustment or repair to the relevant NexGen Tree Shelters made by the Buyer or a third party without the written consent of NexGen; or

3.4 any reuse or repurposing of NexGen Tree Shelters after their initial deployment.

4 REMEDY FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY

4.1 Any and all claims by the Buyer for a breach of the Warranty in clause 1.1 (each a **Warranty Claim**) shall be made strictly in accordance with this clause 4 and NexGen shall not be liable for any other claims made by the Buyer in connection with or arising out of the Warranty.

4.2 In the event that, within the Warranty Period, the Buyer considers that more than 10% of the NexGen Tree Shelters installed by the Buyer on any one site fail to comply with the Warranty in clause 1.1, then the Buyer shall notify NexGen as soon as it becomes aware of the same and provide reasonable evidence in connection therewith.

4.3 NexGen shall reasonably consider the relevant issues in a timely manner and shall confirm to the Buyer whether or not it accepts a Warranty Claim and, if not, the reasons why (along with reasonable accompanying evidence where relevant).



- 4.4 Where NexGen accepts any such Warranty Claim, and subject to the value of sum to be paid by NexGen in connection with the Warranty Claim exceeding a de minimis threshold of £1,000, NexGen shall pay a sum to the Buyer per faulty NexGen Tree Shelter, to cover the cost of a replacement NexGen Tree Shelter, a replacement tree and labour to replant and install the same. Such sums shall be calculated in accordance with a scale published by NexGen from time to time. Any such payment shall be the Buyer's sole and exclusive remedy for the relevant Warranty Claim and NexGen's only liability with respect to a breach of the Warranty in clause 1.1.
- 4.5 In the event that NexGen does not accept a Warranty Claim, NexGen shall be entitled to claim from the Buyer NexGen's reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses (including, without limit, time costs and travel and accommodation costs) incurred in connection with investigating the relevant Warranty Claim. NexGen may invoice the Buyer in advance or in arrears for any such costs and the Buyer shall pay the same within 10 days of the date of the invoice.

5 INCORPORATION INTO AGREEMENT

- 5.1 This Warranty Schedule shall be deemed incorporated into and shall form part of the Agreement for the purchase of Goods by the Buyer from NexGen. All defined terms used in this Warranty Schedule shall, save where specifically defined herein, have the meanings given to them in the NexGen Conditions of Sale.
- 5.2 In the event of any conflict between the terms of this Warranty Schedule, the Order Form and/or the Conditions of Sale, the following order of precedence shall apply to determine which conflicting provisions prevail:
- 5.2.1 the Order Form;
 - 5.2.2 the Conditions of Sale; and
 - 5.2.3 this Warranty Schedule.

NexGen Tree Shelters Limited

Last revised September 2022