

# Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter Introduction



**Use it, leave it. Biodegradable in any end-of-life environment breaking down into nutrients that will not harm soil, freshwater systems or marine life – this is Rainbow’s biodegradable tree shelter called ‘Terra’.**

In designing their Terra tree shelters, the team at Rainbow focused on **plant health** and the **environment**, ensuring a **positive impact** on both.

It is the first and only tree shelter on the market to have achieved a **Soil Biodegradability Certificate\***, providing the **reassurance** that the shelter not only disintegrates, but **fully biodegrades** back into CO2 and biomass, even in freshwater and marine environments.



**100% plant based and non-toxic**, Terra is made from plant resin and recycled natural wood residue from the UK.

The service life is an **average of 5 years**, depending on climatic conditions and location of planting.

**Class-leading light transmission** enables trees and vines to grow at a natural rate (as opposed to being drawn up the shelter too fast, which can lead to instability).

Also available to special order with a biodegradable mini chainlock tie (instead of a cable tie). Please contact our office to discuss your requirements.

### Benefits

- **Protects** from browsing animals, ensuring a greater chance of planting success.
- 100% biodegradable, **no removal or recycling costs**.
- Rounded rim, minimising stem abrasion.
- **Class-leading** light transmission, promoting healthy growth.
- Blends in with the environment, **enhancing the image** of planting schemes.

### Storage / Installation

- Prior to installation – please store in a dry environment.
- For installation guidance, please see pg 4.

\* [www.tuv-at.be/okcert/certified-products](http://www.tuv-at.be/okcert/certified-products)

## Specifications:

Dimensions	Rainbow Terra Biodegradable Tree Shelter				Material	For All Sizes
	0.6	0.75	1.2	1.5		
Height m	0.6	0.75	1.2	1.5	Tube	Plant resin + recycled natural wood residue from the UK.
Diameter mm	75-100	75-100	75-100	75-100	Tie	Nylon (biodegradable chainlock tie (incremental cost) available by special order).
Number of ties	1	1	2	2	Tube colour	Natural.
Type of ties	Releasable	Releasable	Releasable	Releasable	Service life	Minimum 5 years.
Length of tie mm (inch)	285 (11.22)	285 (11.22)	285 (11.22)	285 (11.22)	Biodegradable	Yes.
Height of top tie from ground mm	tbc	tbc	870 (820)	tbc	End of life	Leave tube in situ.
Height of bottom tie from ground mm	na	na	265	tbc	Recycling options	Recyclable or compostable cardboard box.
Average weight/tube g	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	Recommended support	Untreated (hardwood) stake.
					Recommended tools	Mallet (for knocking in stakes). Gloves.
Packaging	Rainbow Terra Biodegradable Tree Shelter					
	4	4	4	4		
	112	tbc	56	tbc		
Packaging	Nested tubes packed into a cardboard box.	tbc	Nested tubes packed into a cardboard box.	tbc		

# Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter Features & Benefits

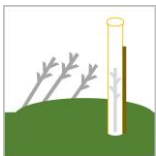
## Plant Welfare



**Animal protection**  
Protects young plants from bark-stripping and browsing animals.



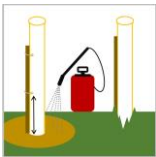
**Light transmission**  
Class-leading light transmission enables trees and vines to grow at a natural rate.



**Wind protection**  
Delivers wind break effect, protecting plants on exposed sites.



**Reduced abrasion**  
Rounded rim minimises stem abrasion.



**Herbicide protection**  
Protects young plant from herbicide and pesticide spray.



**Auto tree release**  
The shelter biodegrades to allow the tree to break free, avoiding strangulation.

## Lifespan



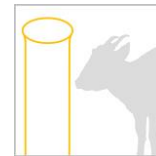
**100% biodegradable**  
Because of the materials used, Rainbow Terra tubes are 100% biodegradable and non-toxic.



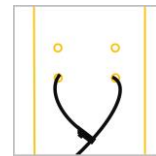
**Certified Soil Biodegradable**  
The first and only tree shelter to have this certification.



**5 years protection**  
Service life of an average of 5 years, depending on weather and planting location.



**Smooth surface deters rubbing**  
Animals can damage shelters when used as a rubbing post.

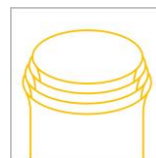


**Spare holes**  
Second set of cable ties means the tube can still be used even if ripping occurs.

## Installation



**Boxed**  
Packed into boxes, meaning easy stacking on pallets and packaging that is compostable.



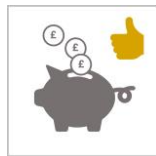
**Nested**  
For ease of movement around site.



**Releasable tie**  
Quick release and tighten pre-fitted cable tie. Also available on special order with a biodegradable mini chainlock tie.



**Natural colour**  
The colour means the tube blends into the natural environment.



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

Compostable packaging



Spare cable tie holes



Stackable packaging



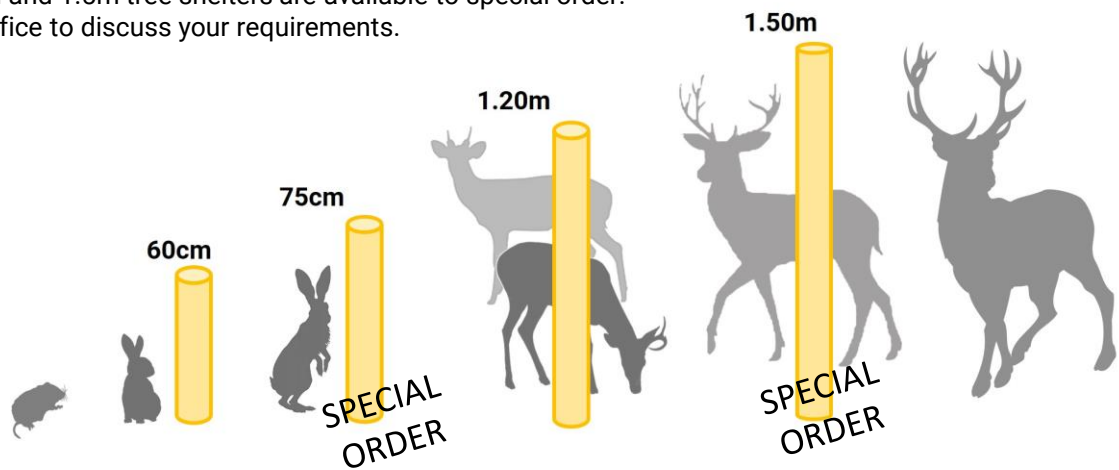
Handles in boxes, making lifting easier

# Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter Range Choices

## Height


Identify which damaging agent (animal) you wish to protect your plants from. This will influence the height of your protection and the wooden stake to support it. Depending on the height selected, Tree Shelters can help protect against voles, rabbits, hare and deer.

Rainbow Terra 0.75m and 1.5m tree shelters are available to special order. Please contact the office to discuss your requirements.



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	75 or 90cm	90cm	1.20m or 1.35m	1.50m	1.80m

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

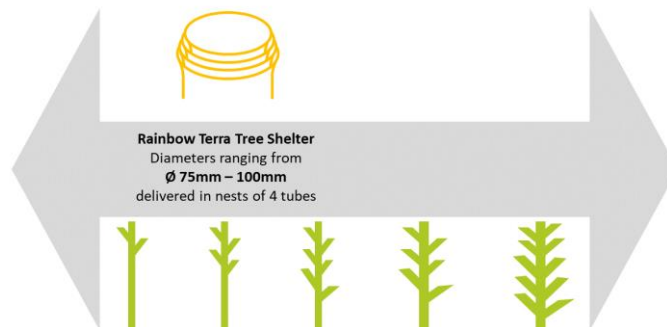
Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter Available Sizes 

## Diameter Types

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

Diameters describe the range of diameters you will find in a nest of tubes, from the smallest to the largest.

Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter tube diameters range from 75mm up to 100mm in a nest of 4 tubes and are suitable for slim to medium plants (ie not shrubs).





# Rainbow Terra Tree Shelter Installation

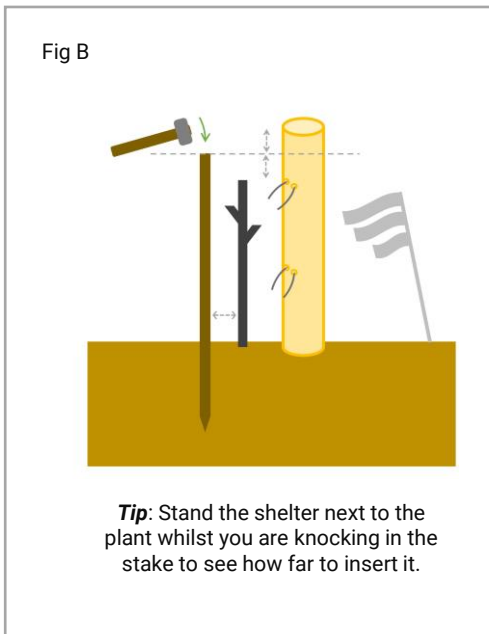
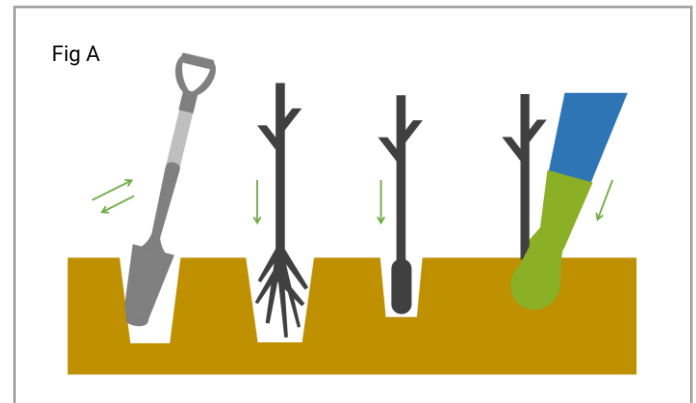
## PLANT

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 tube on the windward side if there are strong prevailing winds (Fig B), and the stake between 2cm to 5cm from the base of the plant.
2. Hammer the stake into the ground with a stake driver or mallet (ideally knocking 1/3 of its height into the ground). Ensure it is vertical (particularly important on sloping ground). The top of the stake should be below the top rim of the shelter and above the top tie wrap.

**Tip:** The supporting stake should be at least 15cm taller than the height of the guard. For example, use a 75 or 90cm stake for a 60cm guard. This ensures there is support high enough up the guard after the stake has been hammered into the ground.

## PROTECT

1. Position the shelter over the tree (Fig C), making sure not to damage any lateral branches, positioning the releasable ties either side of the stake.
2. Gently push the shelter into the ground 1cm to 2cm. This forms a safe herbicide barrier and deters vermin from burrowing under the shelter.
3. Fasten the cable tie(s) securely but avoid overtightening to prevent undue stress on the tube wall. We recommend tucking the end of the cable tie between the stake and the tube to avoid animal nibbling or rubbing.
4. For beating up, release the tie and gently lift the tube (exercising caution as the biodegradable material weakens with age). Gently re tie the cable tie once the tube is lowered back over the plant.

