



Featured Article

LANDSCAPE FABRIC

With increasing concerns for the environment, landscape professionals and home gardeners are on a continual quest to find the perfect non-chemical solution to weed control.

Mulch has become a popular weed control strategy, given its benefits for soil moisture retention, thus reducing overall watering. Geotextiles have also found their way into the market and are a vast improvement over plastic sheeting, which was unsightly and degraded rapidly.

Like organic mulches, landscape fabrics, like plastic sheeting, will decompose over time. The difference between mulch and landscape fabric is that mulch is applied on top of the soil surface and can easily be replaced or added to. Landscape fabrics on the other hand, are installed under the soil, mulch or rock layer, making them less accessible, which also contributes to the decomposition process.

Geotextiles are woven fabrics that permit water to penetrate down into the soil and allowing the soil to breathe. While they may reduce seed germination, they will not prevent weeds from growing up through the fabric or penetrating down from the soil layer above.

The most effective use for landscape fabrics therefore, is in annual planting beds, such as vegetable gardens, or as a liner under decorative rock or mulch. They are not as effective for permanent or long-term use.

If you do decide to use a geotextile fabric, it is recommended that you select the highest quality available, thus reducing the frequency of replacement and to be more effective.

If you have any questions, feel free to drop us an email, or contact your local garden or home improvement center.