



F.A.Q

PERMANENT SIDE PANEL (PSP) NETTING

DURAGARD™ AND TUFFGARD™

What is the concept of PSP Nets?

The PSP system is a side panel netting system that covers the fruiting zones on the vines. Unlike ordinary nets, the PSP system is designed to stay on the vines permanently. This system eliminates the need to retrieve, remove and store the nets at before harvest and reapply the nets at veraison the next season. The PSP heavy duty nets come with two different mesh sizes that lock out all birds and provide a very high level of protection against insects and wildlife. The nets have strong reinforced edges with built in eyelets (button holes) which are used for attaching clips or hooks and provide strong anchoring support.

What are the types of PSP Nets?

These are side panel nets of two styles. The difference is mainly in the mesh size.

1. Duragard
2. Tuffgard /Tightloch

What kind of crop protection do these nets provide?

Bird and Wildlife Protection, Hail Protection, Shade Protection

Tuffgard/ Tightloch provides additional protection from Insects like Bees, Wasps, Yellow Jackets, Grub Beetles

How do PSP Nets save growers money?

Once affixed onto the trellis the first time, PSP Nets require less time and effort on application and retrieval and also do not need any machinery (Tractors, Netting Applicators) for subsequent apply subsequently. This translates to labour savings as they require less time to be effectively applied.

There is a direct savings to the growers with respect to labour, machinery, fuel costs along with no requirement to store the nets when not required.

How are the PSP Nets held in place?

The nets are permanently fastened to a lower trellis wire, sometimes even the drip wire. When not in use the nets are rolled up and zip tied or tied with a string at the lower wire. When applied the nets are opened and hooked onto a catch wire or a lower wire.

Do the PSP Nets hamper spraying?

The PSP nets perform like any other side nets when in application so the same applies. When stored on the vine, the nets are generally chemically inert. The nets are generally minimally affected by most agricultural sprays. Please see our care instructions guide for information on chemicals to avoid. Please read our care document for more details

Do the PSP Nets hamper pruning or irrigation?

The PSP Nets do not hamper pruning and are suitable for all pruning techniques. They do not hamper irrigation.

What are trellising systems most suitable for PSP Nets?

The PSP Nets work best on Vertical Shoot Positioning (VSP) Canopies.

What is the UV warranty of the PSP Nets?

Our PSP Nets have a 10 year pro-rata warranty against UV degradation. Mechanically the nets will last longer if handled and applied correctly especially along metal posts. Please read our Warranty and Care documents for more information.

What about access to the vineyard by machinery e.g. Mechanical Harvesting?

The nets are generally stored on wire 400m -600mm off the ground. This is low enough to allow access of harvesters over them without interference. Please consider your vineyard block circumstances independently as each and every vineyard block is and is also subject to different types of harvesters. Apart from mechanical harvesters, the PSP Nets do not interfere with the access of other machinery throughout the block in general.

Some vineyards store the nets at the top of the canopy.

How do you apply the nets?

The nets come on manageable rolls with cores. For the first time, simply apply directly out of the roll on a net applicator and fasten on to 2 wires. At the end, simply roll up the net and tie it back down to the wire. For the next season, all you need to do is unroll, the lift the nets up over the fruit zone and clip both sides together. No storage, no machinery, no fuss.

What lengths and widths are available?

Our PSP Nets are available in 0.8m – 1.2m (31”-48”) and standard 500m (1650’) lengths.

Do we need to make any special changes or additions to our trellis to use the PSP nets?

The PSP Netting System works effectively with VSP Trellising only. Please ensure your vineyard has VSP. No modifications are required to an existing VSP as this system uses existing wires to cover the fruiting zone.

In terms of costs, how do the PSP Nets compare to ordinary side nets?

The initial outlay for the PSP Nets is higher than ordinary extruded or light weight knitted side nets as these are heavy duty nets designed for outdoor application for 365 days. The PSP nets quickly pay for themselves given the cost, storage and time savings gained along with a much wider range and higher degree of fruit protection over their life. The quality of the fruit harvested is generally superior.

What Clipping systems are used?

Specially designed hanger clips are extremely effective for hanging nets permanently from catch wires. The clip is actually designed to perform two separate functions. It is ideal for #1) hanging nets from catch wires while covering fruit and #2) securing rolled up nets to catch wires during the "off-season". To close nets bottoms together (without a wire), nets joiner clips and/or tagging barbs work well excluding birds from getting up inside the nets. Net joiners are large and therefore quickly to install/remove.

If permanently attaching nets to a lower wire (i.e. drip wire), 4.5" UV stabilized cable ties are very useful for securing the bottoms of the nets to the wire. The hanger clips (referenced earlier) are used to hang the nets temporarily from the upper catch wires when raising nets at veraison.

Whether permanently securing nets to an upper or lower wire(s), catch wire clips are used to keep catch wires close together to help exclude birds from gaining access to the fruit inside the nets.

How far apart are the clips?

Generally speaking, 1-2 hanger clips are installed between each and every plant. If raising nets at the end of the season, 1 hanger clip must be installed on catch wires on each side of the row. If lowering nets at the end of the season, it is sometimes possible for nets covering both sides of the row to hang from a single clip installed on only one side of the row between each plant. When installing the nets in this manner, workers would need to "reach through" the canopy from the side of the row which the clips are NOT hanging, to hang the nets onto the hanger clips installed onto the wire on the other side of the row.

More product information, images and calculators:

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