

BIOCOVERS

April 2013



Four types of weed control fabrics were tested. From left to right:

1. Coir mulch mat with black foil, 530 g/m²
2. Woven PP fabric, UV stabilized, 90 g/m²
3. Jute fabric, 1000 g/m²
4. Biocovers, PLA nonwoven, 157 g/m²

In front of the slope, we used a layer of bark chips (10 cm)

During the test period, no maintenance activities were performed.

August 2013



Conclusion after 4 months:

- Bark is not efficient and can even stimulate weed growth. Airborne seeds can anchor and develop on the bark chips.
- The jute fibres start to degrade; on some locations weeds start to develop.
- The other fabrics are performing well.

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June 2014



June 2014



Conclusion after 14 months:

- The lifetime of the jute fabric is not sufficient (1). Weeds can easily develop through the mat.
- The synthetic woven fabric is working well. Some weeds can grow around the pins (2).
- The coir fibres are degrading fast; the black foil is clearly visible (3).
- The Biocovers PLA fabric is meeting the expectations (4); no weeds are growing through the fabric.
- Bark does not prevent weed growth (5). On some locations, weeds have overgrown the bark completely.

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