

Mole Rat Experiment

Our ClearMesh35 and our 0.28mm stainless steel knitted wire mesh was tested as an underground barrier against the Cape dune mole rat to determine its effectiveness against mole rat attacks, its environmental friendliness and its life cycle underground.

The Mole Rat Test

Cape dune mole rats are quite large in size and are known to be aggressive.

A perspex burrow was constructed to record the mole rat attack against the ClearMesh barrier. After a 6 hour starvation period, the mole rat was separated from its food using the mesh to see if the mole rat would be able to penetrate the mesh in an attempt to reach its food.

2 different mole rats were used throughout the experiment to eliminate the strength of the mole rat from affecting the results of the experiment.

The results found that both of the mole rats could not penetrate the mesh barrier.



Underground test

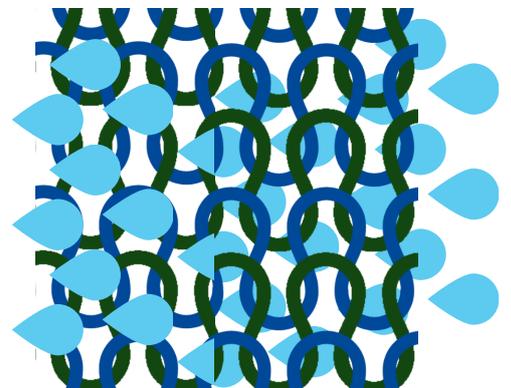
The underground test used 30m of our ClearMesh at a 1,000mm depth into the ground opposite another HDPE product also being tested. ClearMesh was installed much faster, making for a cheaper installation cost.

Thanks to the knitted loop pattern, underground it will prevent mole rats from penetrating, whilst also allowing natural behaviours underground such as water flow and plant root growth.

This was proven, as the ground protected by HDPE became water logged, as it prevented the natural underground flow of water. Whereas the ground protected using ClearMesh still allowed water to flow freely, keeping the ground more stable.

The anti-corrosive and weather resistant properties of stainless steel give ClearMesh a longer life cycle than the HDPE.

The mesh was then given a score out of 5 for its life cycle cost, environmental friendliness, mole penetration resistance, constructibility and commercial availability, and was given a total score of 4.4 out of 5.



The Results

ClearMesh35 has proven to be effective against mole rat attacks and underground environmental elements. With these results, we feel confident in saying that our mesh is rodent proof. The Cape dune mole rat is the largest of all mole rats measuring at 27 - 35cm in length.

the looped knitted pattern does not disrupt the environment and does not affect the health of the planet, humans or animals.

The flexibility and light weight of the mesh aids with installation, making it faster and, therefore, cheaper.

Since these tests, our ClearMesh has been used in conservation efforts by the RSPB to protect sea birds on Gough Island against mice. You can read more about this on our blog page.



If you would like to test the product for yourself, or see its suitability, you can order some free samples from the ClearMesh website by scanning the QR code to the left.

Alternatively, if you would like to make a purchase, or require more information, you can contact us at 0027 (0) 21706 8138.