TRUE PRODUCTS

BioXnet™ - A new, responsible choice for growers, resellers & retailers. Oxo-biodegradable netting will become an essential offering for addressing consumer concerns about the use of single-use plastic within the Christmas tree industry.

Oxo-biodegradable netting - what is it?

The term 'oxo-biodegradable' is a hybridization of two words, oxidation and biodegradable.
It defines clearly a two-step process which degrades the polymer chains (oxidation) until they are no longer plastic and this makes it available for biodigestion within the environment by microbial life (biodegradable).

This 2 stage process is achieved by adding a small amount of additive to standard plastic which we then use to produce our BioXnet™ netting.

How effective is the additive?

Standard plastic can take up to 1000 years to degrade naturally.
Our 'treated' plastic will take between 2 and 5 years to fully degrade (depending on conditions).
This is after a programmed 2 year shelf life for the unused product.

"The addition of the additive to the white PE net sample submitted by True Products Group Ltd has been shown to be effective in introducing an oxo-biodegradable characteristic, resulting in a controlled progression to full embrittlement."

Dr Gary Ogden FIMMM CSci
Technical Manager - Polymers (Wells Plastics Ltd)

Why should I choose this over hydro-biodegradable products using starch?

Here are some factors to help you decide:

Oxo-Biodegradable	Hydro-Biodegradable
Can be recycled as part of a normal plastic waste-stream	Damages recyclate unless extracted from feedstock
Can be made from recyclate	Cannot be made from recyclate
Time to degrade can be set at manufacture	Cannot be controlled
Emits CO_2 slowly while degrading	Emits CO_2 rapidly while degrading. As 90% of it must convert to CO_2 within 180 days in order to comply with the Standards for compostable plastic, these plastics contribute to climate change but do not improve the soil.
Inert deep in landfill	Emits methane deep in landfill
Can use same machinery and workforce as for conventional plastic	Needs special machinery and workforce
Suitable for use in high-speed machinery	Usually not suitable
Compostable in-vessel	Compostable (but not for home composting)
Little or no additional cost	Four or five times more expensive than conventional plastic
Same strength as conventional plastic	Weaker than conventional plastic (unless mixed with oil-based plastic)
Same weight as conventional plastic	Thicker and heavier
Leak-proof	Prone to leakage
Degrades anywhere on land or sea	Degrades only in high-microbial environment
No genetically modified ingredients	Possibility of GM ingredients
Production uses no fertilisers, pesticides or water	Production uses fertilisers, pesticides and water