

# Root Guard vs Competition Comparison Chart

	Digger's Root Guard	Mesh Sock	Pre-made Stainless Steel	Pre-made Aviary Wire	Pre-made Chicken Wire	Pre-made Hardware Cloth
Wire Gauge	20	32	20/21	22/23	20	18
Sharp Exposed Wire Ends	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Price	Best value	Same price	Much more expensive	Less expensive	Less expensive	Much more expensive
Shipping Cost	Ships Flat	Less expensive	Much more expensive	Much more expensive	Much more expensive	Much more expensive
Opening	3/4" Hex	1/4" circle	1" square	1/2" hex	1' hex	1/2 square
	Best*	Too Small - root girdling	OK	Too Small - may cause root girdling	Too Large	Too Small- may cause foot girdling
Free Standing	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Allows for Healthy Root Growth	Y	N	Y	Maybe	Y	Maybe
Size Up to Allow for More Root Protection	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Plant bare root	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lasts	6 -10+ Years	1-2 years	6+ years, May Last Longer?	?	?	?
Product on the market	Since 1985	2010	2009	?	?	?
Above Surface Protection	Y, 3" Above Ground, Painted Green	Y, can secure top of sock to plant stem	N	N	Y	N
Material and Coating	Steel - Hot Dipped Galvanized	Stainless Steel - not coated	Stainless Steel - not coated	Steel - Galvanized	Steel - Galvanized	Steel - Galvanized
Mesh Type	Woven	open weave	welded	woven	woven	welded
Notes	The original and best Gopher Wire Plant Protection	flimsy	150% more expensive	looks home made	looks home made	difficult to handle--stiff wire
	Researcher Recommend Galvanized and 3/4" Hex Mesh*	can easily tear with hands				two pieces - assembly required
		bottom stapled together				held together with plastic cable ties

\*University of California, Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program, Publication 7433, September 2009.