

Pictorial Guide to Pollination Cage Assembly

A publication of the Organic Seed Partnership



1. Mesh fabric is stored in metal barrels during the winter to keep it clean and to prevent rodent damage.



2. Cage construction requires 10 upright posts and 13 crossbars for a 12ft x 48ft cage.



3. Three raised beds with plastic mulch and drip tape are prepared. The cage is laid out and checked for squareness by measuring diagonals.



4. Uprights are secured into the ground by first driving a short pointed spike then tapping the upright in the hole.



5. Crossbars are used to connect uprights.



6. The finished framework is ready for mesh.



7. Mesh is unrolled ...



8. ... and pulled across.



9. Zippered ends are closed. Note: It may be necessary to move the bottom of the corner uprights in somewhat to close if the mesh is too snug.



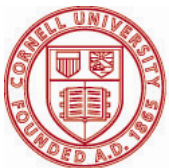
10. The life of the fabric is extended by inserting padding where it contacts pipe junctions.



11. The bottom flap is buried to hold down the fabric and seal the cage.



12. The finished cage is ready for planting. A bee hive will be introduced at flowering.



Cornell University
Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics



Funding for this project was provided by the Organic Farming Research Foundation.
Cornell University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer.