

Friendly Backyard Fruit Tree Netting

Proper installation of netting over backyard fruit trees as seen here could mean the difference between life and death of our local wildlife.

- Use durable knitted netting with mesh size 40mm or smaller to exclude flying-foxes. **White netting, more easily seen by wildlife is recommended**
- Stretch the netting taut over a homemade frame – netting thrown loosely can lead to entanglement.
- Ensure the frame is at least one metre clear of the tree.
- Peg the netting securely to the ground for full protection.
- Velcro or tie one side of the net to the frame to allow access to fruit. Close after collecting fruit.



Netting display at Kukundi Wildlife Shelter, LCNP

Alternative methods of protecting ripening fruit:

Use clothes pegs to peg 50% shade cloth over the branches of the tree bearing fruit. Shade cloth can be removed after fruiting has finished and reused the following year.

OR

Tie paper bags over ripening fruit. NB: bags will need to be replaced if they become wet.

Thin nylon/monofilament netting should NEVER be used. Even stretched tightly over a frame wildlife can still become entangled and suffer appalling injuries often resulting in death.

Whatever way you use to protect your fruit, please check your trees daily. If, despite precautions any wildlife is entangled, do not attempt to release it yourself. Call one of the wildlife rescue services in your area.
In Sydney: Sydney Wildlife (02) 9413 4300 **or** WIRES (02) 8977 3333

IT IS ILLEGAL TO HARM NATIVE WILDLIFE.

