

WHY THE PIONEER TUNNEL?

Pioneer tunnels are suited to the field-scale production of crops such as strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries and more. Haygrove Pioneer tunnels have a large air volume to help create a balanced climate for optimal growing conditions.

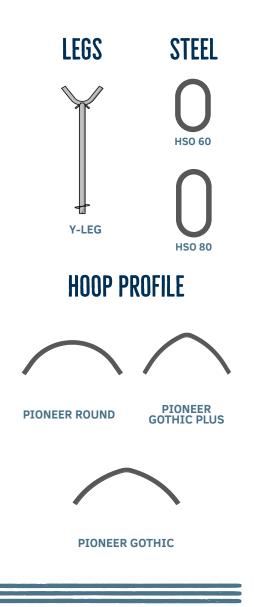
- Provides a versatile solution to your growing needs.
- The tunnel specification can be customised to create the appropriate strength requirements to meet the climatic demands of your location.
- Dimensions can be altered to suit bespoke plant row spacings.
- A range of technologies can also be fitted (or retro-fitted) depending on the required functionality.

Haygrove Tunnels follow the natural contours of the ground, removing the need for site levelling or concrete foundations, therefore reducing investment and construction time. The Pioneer tunnel allows full tractor access with internal roadways, wide enough for machinery to turn.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AIR VOLUME

Increasing air volume within the tunnel helps stabilise the internal environment and reduces humidity, creating the potential for higher yields and consistently better-quality fruit throughout the season. This is especially important in Pioneer tunnels, where manual venting limits the frequency and timing of ventilation, making air volume a key factor in effective climate management.

Taller, high-volume structures are made possible through the use of strong steel and advanced bracing techniques. Haygrove Pioneer tunnels are available in bay widths ranging from 6m to 9m, with the optimal width and leg height determined by factors such as the crop type, row spacing, machinery, and local climate. Support legs can reach up to 3m from the ground, determining the overall height of the tunnel. Optimal leg height is determined by the crop height, additional technologies and desired working height.



HIGH STRENGTH OVAL (HSO™) STEEL

Haygrove HSO steel is the premium steel choice for growers seeking high strength and excellent value for money. The oval shape of the steel adds strength to the tunnel where it's most needed.

- HSO steel bends like traditional circular steel but has increased lateral strength due to its flat side. This enhances the tunnel strength in the vulnerable side wind direction.
- The profile of HSO steel gives the hoops improved strength for a given amount of steel compared to a traditional circular hoop.

HOOP PROFILE

Haygrove offer three hoop profiles: Round, Gothic or Gothic Plus.

The Round hoop profile is the traditional, streamlined shape, perfect for areas with no snow risk. The Gothic profile has a small peak in the hoop, whereas the Gothic Plus is a longer steel hoop to give a steep sidewall allowing snow to fall off the structure easily, reducing the risk of damage and the labour needed to remove snow.

Cabling is an effective, economic method of adding strength to the structure to protect against wind and snow. Lattice cabling connects legs and hoops throughout the length of the tunnel in a continuous diagonal formation which adds considerable resistance against side winds. Side cabling connects legs longitudinally, adding stability to the structure.

ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

FULL-WIDTH ROLLER DOORS

Start your production early to achieve the early season market prices. Fully enclosed tunnels protect crop from wind and adverse weather to give the plants optimum growth conditions. Roller doors can be opened and closed with a choice of mechanical and electrical gear boxes which gives the grower maximum flexibility, a benefit for both the tunnel environment and accessibility. Being the full width of the tunnel, the roller doors allow machinery full access.

RAINWATER GUTTER

Haygrove Rainwater Gutters are designed to harvest rainwater run-off from the polytunnels catchment area. Water can then be collected and stored for crop irrigation. Gutters provide an effective seal to the leg rows which is significant when forcing an early crop. The risk of water damaging crops is subsequently reduced and no water can build up inside the tunnels. Rainwater gutters are manufactured from pre-galvanised steel, adding considerable strength to the leg row of the tunnel.

RETRACTABLE SHADE NET

A Retractable Shade Net option offers an additional climate management tool to maximise the potential of the crop. The shade net can be deployed strategically throughout the day to balance UV light exposure and VPD management for optimal growing conditions.

With a 3m gutter height, a retractable shade net can be installed without restricting access. The mechanised system, which operates over an area of up to one hectare at a time, pulls the shade nets on and off. The system can be used with a wide spectrum of netting types and even thermal screens to suit the growing requirements.

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