

<u>IS 16089 : 2013 Jute Agrotextiles — Sapling Bags for Growth of Seedling/Sapling —</u> <u>Specification</u>

Jute sapling bags provide a healthier microclimate for the development of root network of the saplings, that helps retain soil humidity at a conducive level, arrest desiccation of soil and attenuates extremes of temperature due to the intrinsic characteristics of jute and capacity to absorb water/moisture up to about 5 times of its dry weight. On bio-degradation, jute coalesces with soil, increasing its permeability and supplementing its nutrient level. JAT provides all these advantages without affecting eco-ambience adversely.

A good quality jute sapling bags should show reliable strength, durability, and effective water retention for optimal sapling growth. These jute sapling bags should maintain consistency in essential characteristics such as mass, thickness, open area, and thread count. These features collectively ensure that the bags offer suitable porosity and resilience, withstand environmental stresses, and retain moisture for extended periods, which are crucial for healthy sapling development.

In addition, jute sapling bags are known for their biodegradability and minimal environmental impact, as they decompose naturally, enriching the soil instead of adding to waste.

This standard prescribes constructional and other requirements for 272 g/m² sapling bags for growth of seedling/ sapling. The standard covers the important requirements such as mass, thickness, open area, thread count, water holding capacity, and tensile strength to ensure consistency, durability, and adequate water retention property. These bags effectively create a supportive environment for saplings while maintaining environmental sustainability.

Furthermore, the standard includes guidance on proper usage and installation, supporting users in maximizing the benefits of jute agrotextiles in agricultural settings.