

What are Phragmites?

Phragmites australis, the **common reed**, is a large perennial grass. It forms extensive stands (known as reed beds), which may be as much as a square kilometer or more in extent. Where conditions are suitable, it can spread at 5 metres or more per year by horizontal runners, which puts down roots at regular intervals. It can grow in damp ground, in standing water (up to a meter or so deep), or even as a floating mat. The erect stems grow to 2 - 6 metres tall, with the tallest plants growing in areas with hot summers and fertile growing conditions. The leaves are long for a grass, 20 - 50 centimetres and 2 - 3 centimetres broad. The flowers are produced in late summer in a dense, dark purple panicle, about 20 - 50 cm long. Later, the numerous long, narrow, sharp pointed spikelets appear greyer due to the growth of long, silky hairs.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phragmites>

Phragmites have become major invaders of the environment. A few years ago, three universities joined forces in order to find a solution to the growth of these phragmites. Scientists from the university Laval, McGill and Montreal formed a special task force to investigate this species.

Typar, the manufacturer of Biobarrier, offered the Biobarrier membrane for the study.

The phragmites were cut prior to the application of Biobarrier.



Biobarrier comes in various sizes and the rolls are sealed in a plastic bag in a cardboard box. Installation is simple and quick.



Unrolling and staking Biobarrier.



Mulch from the existing site was used to cover the Biobarrier membrane. Minimum cover is 2" and a maximum of 3".



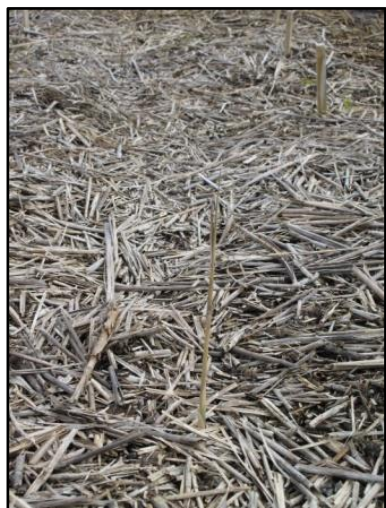
After one year

No phragmite has been able to reproduce under the Biobarrier membrane, the performance of Biobarrier has been exceptional!



After two years

The Biobarrier test site is intact. Only one phragmite was able to grow through the Biobarrier membrane, but after a growth of 20 cm, it died.



Biobarrier's performance is guaranteed by the manufacturer for 15 years, but you can expect it to last for 25 and even 30 years!