

## RCG Row Cover Storage & Winterizing Garden Beds

YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/Eb5gt3Wa450>

### Row Cover Storage:

IF you used DIO-BETALON on your bed this year, we want you to use that same piece next year. So, in order to mark it as yours and to store it properly, I will give you directions here. IF you will NOT be returning to the garden next year, we will simply pass your DIO on to another gardener.

1 - Remove the DIO from your bed and make sure it's dry before rolling it up like a "bed roll". Retain the cord that is holding it down, and tie the cordage to the "bed roll" with the bungees. There's extra cord in the shed if you need an extra piece. Tie a NAME TAG, (provided for you in the shed in the yogurt container with the permanent marker) to the bundle and place on the HIGH shelf indicated. There is a ladder for your convenience.

2 - If you used clamps to hold down your DIO-BETALON - simply remove those clamps and store them in the "clamp box" in the shed.

3 - PVC & rebar: You may leave the PVC hoops in place at your bed, or simply remove the PVC and rebar and place both on your garden bed for off-season storage.

That's it! And it sounds harder than it is...check out the bundle in the shed.

Agribon...AKA Floating row cover - Dry it out, and put it in the CORRECT plastic bin in the shed. THANKS A BUNCH!

HERE'S THE DIO BUNDLE EXAMPLE



Sept. 2023

## **Winterizing Garden Beds:**

*Please complete this before Nov. 1*

1 - Remove all biomass from the bed with the exception of overwintering plants, like carrots, spinach or garlic. This can be done by chopping the veggies off at the soil surface, and leaving the root in the ground, or by pulling them out by the roots. Adding vegetables and soil to the compost is beneficial.

2 - Take the biomass to the compost area and place it in the fenced area called: garden waste. (NO viable seed heads, or diseased plants in the compost please!) All such material should be taken home for your refuse bin.

3 - Add native soil, (if available) from outside the garden gate, to bring your bed soil level up to one inch below the bed rim.

4 - Compost might be available in the fall to add to your bed. Look for the signs indicating readiness at the compost bins.

5 - Water the soil until it's like a wrung out sponge - this keeps micro-organisms and worms alive through the winter.

6 - Top the bed with a combination of grass clippings, straw, and leaf litter if these are available in the compost area. Mulch to 3 inches deep. Water this material again to hold it in place.

7 - Many gardeners like to place stakes, rebar, PVC hoops etc. on top of the mulch to keep it from blowing away in the winter wind.

8 - If you have supports, trellises, etc. that you want to keep at your bed for next year, PLEASE place them on top of your mulched bed, and DO NOT leave them in the walking pathways, or next to your bed!

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