



Matthew Freund gluing sheets for trial.

Comments on the initial stages of the research trial from USDA project leader:

The mulch and planting went along just fine. Only a couple of minor tears which were easily 'repaired' with the glue and extra strips on hand. It rained lightly a couple of times the first few days after we got the plants out. This week we've have a couple of heavy downpours and its holding up fine.

The biggest problem we're having the past couple days is deer. They are nibbling the tops of the tomatoes and prancing on all the mulch. We put out some emergency bars of 'Zest' and other highly fragrant soap and will install an electric fence this week. We just don't want to have to replant and get more holes in all the mulches. We can repair the few, so all is well for the moment.

I'll try to get time on Thurs. to download and email you some of the photos we took of the planted plots.

Patricia D. Millner, Ph.D.
Research Microbiologist
Sustainable Agricultural Systems Laboratory and
Environmental Microbial Safety Laboratory
USDA-ARS-BARC