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Mulch Films Market Forecasts to 2030 – Global Analysis By Type (Clear/Transparent, Black Mulch, Colored Mulch, Photo-selective Mulch, Degradable Mulch and Other Types), Material, Application, End User and By Geography

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Abstracts

According to Stratistics MRC, the Global Mulch Films Market is accounted for $9.10 billion in 2024 and is expected to reach $14.12 billion by 2030 growing at a CAGR of 7.6% during the forecast period. Mulch films are thin coatings of natural or synthetic materials that are applied to the soil surface in horticultural and agricultural practices to increase crop yields. These films protect plants from pests and diseases, control soil temperature, inhibit weed growth, and preserve soil moisture, among other functions. Mulch films come in a range of materials, including polyethylene, biodegradable plastics, and paper-based alternatives, to meet multiple farming requirements, they work especially well to create a microclimate that is conducive to plant growth and to decrease water evaporation, which is crucial in arid areas.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced USD 25 million in funding through its Conservation Innovation Grants program to support sustainable mulching techniques.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Growing demands for agricultural productivity

There has never been more pressure to increase agricultural productivity, as the world's

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population is expected to reach 9.7 billion people by 2050. Mulch films are essential for tackling this issue because they give crops the best growing conditions possible. Mulch films allow farmers to increase yields even in less-than-ideal soil and climate conditions by lowering water evaporation, preserving soil structure, and inhibiting weed growth. Additionally, the market for mulch films has been significantly influenced by the need for increased output from a smaller amount of agricultural land, especially in areas where food security is a concern.

Restraint:

Expensive initial investment in advanced mulch films

Although advanced mulch films and biodegradable mulch films have many advantages, their higher initial costs relative to conventional plastic films make widespread adoption difficult. Even though these movies promise long-term savings through lower water use and higher yields, small-scale farmers, particularly in developing nations, frequently find it difficult to justify the extra cost. Furthermore, the lack of production and availability of biodegradable materials further exacerbates the cost difference, making advanced mulch films less affordable for farmers with tight budgets.

Opportunity:

Advancements in technology for mulch film design

New prospects for market expansion are being generated by developments in mulch film technology. The creation of specialty films, like colored, perforated, and UV-stabilized films, enables farmers to alter soil properties for particular crops. Reflective mulch films, for example, can help some plants absorb more light, and perforated mulch films increase water permeability and aeration. Additionally, research is being done to improve mulch films' strength, resilience, and biodegradability through the use of nanotechnology. In addition to enhancing mulch film functionality, these developments broaden their range of uses and draw in more clients.

Threat:

Competition from alternative farming methods

Mulch films are increasingly being challenged by substitute agricultural methods and goods that provide comparable advantages without the corresponding disadvantages.

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Methods like cover cropping, which involves growing plants to cover the soil, and the application of organic mulches like compost or straw, for example, are becoming more and more popular. The market for mulch films is directly threatened by these techniques, which not only improve soil health and moisture retention but also lessen the need for plastic or synthetic materials.

Covid-19 Impact:

The market for mulch films was greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused disruptions in both production and supply chains. At the height of the pandemic, manufacturing and logistics restrictions caused delays in the production and delivery of mulch films, resulting in shortages in several regions. Additionally, the agricultural sector experienced a reduction in activity and a shortage of labor, which in some areas led to a lower demand for agricultural inputs like mulch films. However, the growing interest in sustainable agricultural practices and the shift toward more resilient farming systems during the pandemic also increased demand for eco-friendly alternatives, such as biodegradable mulch films.

The Black Mulch segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The market for mulch films is expected to be largest share by the Black Mulch segment. This is due to black mulch's widespread use, which helps suppress weed growth and retain soil moisture by blocking sunlight. It works especially well for crops like fruits and vegetables. Its dominance in the market is a result of its affordability and adaptability. Moreover, black mulch also contributes to stable soil temperatures, which are essential for increasing crop yields. Its extensive use in residential and commercial agriculture across multiple regions contributes to the segment's high share.

The Fruits & Vegetables segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

The market for mulch films is anticipated to grow at the highest CAGR in the Fruits & Vegetables segment. This increase is ascribed to the growing need for increased agricultural productivity, which mulch films help to achieve by enhancing soil moisture retention, temperature regulation, and weed control. Since fruits and vegetables are sensitive to environmental factors, these factors are especially important when growing them. Additionally, farmers are increasingly using mulch films as an efficient way to increase crop yields as the world's fresh produce consumption rises, making this market segment the one with the fastest rate of growth.

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Region with largest share:

The market for mulch films is expected to be dominated by the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region due to the substantial agricultural activity in nations like China, India, and Japan. Mulch films are being adopted because of the region's increasing need for increased agricultural productivity, especially in crops like fruits, vegetables, and field crops. APAC's large agricultural sector combined with increasing investments in modern farming techniques and rising awareness about sustainable practices, has made it the dominant market for mulch films. Furthermore, the region's high crop production volumes and emphasis on increasing yields while conserving resources are expected to keep it at the top.

Region with highest CAGR:

The market for mulch films is anticipated to grow at the highest CAGR in the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region. The growing use of sophisticated farming techniques in arid and semi-arid areas, where crop production depends on controlling soil temperature and conserving water, is what is causing this expansion. Moreover, the need for mulch films is rising quickly as governments and farmers work to increase agricultural productivity through sustainable methods. In the upcoming years, the region's growing emphasis on cutting-edge irrigation systems and technologically advanced farming methods is anticipated to support the market expansion for mulch films.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in Mulch Films market include BASF SE, Dow Chemical Company, Armando Alvarez Group, RKW Group, FKuR Kunststoff GmbH, British Polythene Industries Plc, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Intergro, Inc., Berry Global Inc., Kothari Group, Novamont S.p.A., Al-Pack Enterprises Ltd., Napco National, Shalimar Group and BioBag International AS.

Key Developments:

In August 2024, Linde has signed a long-term agreement for the supply of clean hydrogen to Dow’s Fort Saskatchewan Path2Zero Project. The company will invest more than US$ 2 billion to build, own and operate a world-scale integrated clean hydrogen and atmospheric gases facility in Alberta, Canada.

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In July 2024, BASF and ENGIE signed a 7-year Biomethane Purchase Agreement (BPA). Under the BPA, ENGIE will supply BASF with 2.7 to 3.0 terawatt hours of biomethane throughout the term of the agreement. BASF uses certified biomethane at its Ludwigshafen/Germany and Antwerp/Belgium sites as a sustainable alternative to fossil raw materials in its manufacturing process.

In October 2023, RKW and Glen Dimplex Heating & Ventilation have announced an agreement that will see the transfer of the renowned water heating brands, Redring and Burco. This agreement aligns to both company's strategies with GDHV's ongoing commitment to focussing on their portfolio of brands and technologies in the electric heating and ventilation categories, and RKW's continued expansion plan into new product categories that complement core operations.

Types Covered:

- Clear/Transparent
- Black Mulch
- Colored Mulch
- Photo-selective Mulch
- Degradable Mulch
- Other Types

Materials Covered:

- Polylactic acid (PLA)
- Polyhydroxyalkanoate (PHA)
- Polyethylene
- Polypropylene

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Polyvinyl Chloride

Ethylene-vinyl Acetate (EVA)

Starch

Polybutylene Succinate (PBS)

Applications Covered:

Fl?w?r?

?r???

F??ld Cr???

F?r??tr?

Fruits & Vegetables

Grains

End Users Covered:

Agricultural Farms

Horticulture

Regions Covered:

North America

US

Canada

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- Mexico

Europe

- Germany
- UK
- Italy
- France
- Spain
- Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

- Japan
- China
- India
- Australia
- New Zealand
- South Korea
- Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Chile

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Rest of South America

Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & Africa

What our report offers:
- Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments
- Strategic recommendations for the new entrants
- Covers Market data for the years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2026, and 2030
- Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment Opportunities, and recommendations)
- Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market estimations
- Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends
- Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments
- Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free customization options:

Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

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Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

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Note: Tables for North America, Europe, APAC, South America, and Middle East & Africa Regions are also represented in the same manner as above.

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