Appendix I. Cage construction

Field cages were constructed using lightweight, black irrigation tubing and four pieces of 2 cm diameter PVC cut into 15 cm segments with a point at one end (i.e., 30 cm PVC sections were cut in half at a 45o angle). The PVC stakes were hammered into the ground at each corner of each cage and the irrigation tubing was inserted into the PVC to make a tent-shaped frame. Mesh (nylon tulle bridal veil, Joann Fabric) or floating row cover (Agribon+ AG-15 Insect Barrier, Johnny’s Selected Seeds, Fairfield, Maine) material was attached to the cage frames using 5 cm binder clips. A small sheet of 2 mm plastic sheeting was placed between the binder clip and the material to prevent tearing. The material was further secured by placing segments of 1-2 cm PCV filled with gravel and sand at the base of each side of the cage to keep the material firmly against the ground. For the “closed” and “agitation” cages, wind blocks were also established around each cage (photo below). The wind block was created by attaching four 60 cm (long) x 30 cm (tall) rectangles of corrugated plastic (4 mm thick, Laird Plastics, Madison, WI) on the short ends with duct tape to form a square and pressed to the soil surface. Bamboo garden stakes were placed in each corner to provide support for the corrugated plastic.

