

Bamboo Maintenance

Bamboo is not invasive: simple measures allow bamboo to be confined to the area where planted without it spreading to neighbouring areas.

In the open field, it is possible with simple agricultural practices: mechanical work, ripping, perimeter ditches, zero cutting, etc.

In the garden, the use of simple root-resistant sheaths placed to a depth of as little as 30 centimetres allow the bamboo to be contained as long as the sheath is bent into an 'L' shape in the direction from which the rhizomes come.

The cut in the ground (3-4 cm is sufficient) can be made with a catenary garden for irrigation pipes.

Once the control mode has been optimised and given the possibility for the plants to take root completely,

Bamboo plant **does not require much maintenance** and can be left to grow in a natural way, by thinning the canes even only every five to ten years.

To limit the development in height, it will be sufficient to pruning; in this way, unlike the classic ornamental bushes or trees, the bamboo will no longer grow taller throughout its life (variable depending on the species), remaining green in some cases up to more than 10 years.

For a bamboo plantation to take root well it is necessary that in the first few years there is an adequate water supply and therefore an irrigation system that allow easy and correct rooting. Subsequently, adult bamboos can also withstand prolonged periods of drought without causing structural damage to the bamboo which is, internally, equipped with a regulation system for water requirements, such as to enable it to store water reserves in the canes and the rhizomatous apparatus for use in times of scarcity (the so-called 'camel effect').

Bamboo does not require any phytosanitary treatment to stay healthy, unlike many other ornamental plants.



the Bamboo

extraordinary grass with a thousand qualities

Do you really know what bamboo is?

The term bamboo identifies a group of very **vigorous evergreen plants**, belonging to the Poaceae family; it is a **graminaceous plant** of considerable size, but in all respects a herbaceous plant. When we talk about bamboo, in fact, we are referring to a grass and not to a tree or shrub, as many people think!

There are innumerable varieties: there are, in fact, more than 1,000 species, subdivided into 68 different genres, some shrubby others bushy.

Among the species belonging to this genus the most famous is *Phyllostachys edulis* or *pubescens*, known as bamboo Moso, renamed Giant Bamboo because of the size it can reach (20 metres in height and 12-15 cm in diameter).

It grows in temperate climates and withstands temperatures as low as -20°C.

A bamboo forest grows quickly, providing abundant yields and supplying very resistant, high-quality materials that can be used in the many different sectors, even earning the nickname 'vegetable steel' for its exceptional tensile and compressive strength.

Bamboo is a plant with **innumerable beneficial properties**, still little known and cultivated in the West but very widespread in Asia, where it is recognised as a symbol of long life. It has a long life cycle, on average more than 100 years.

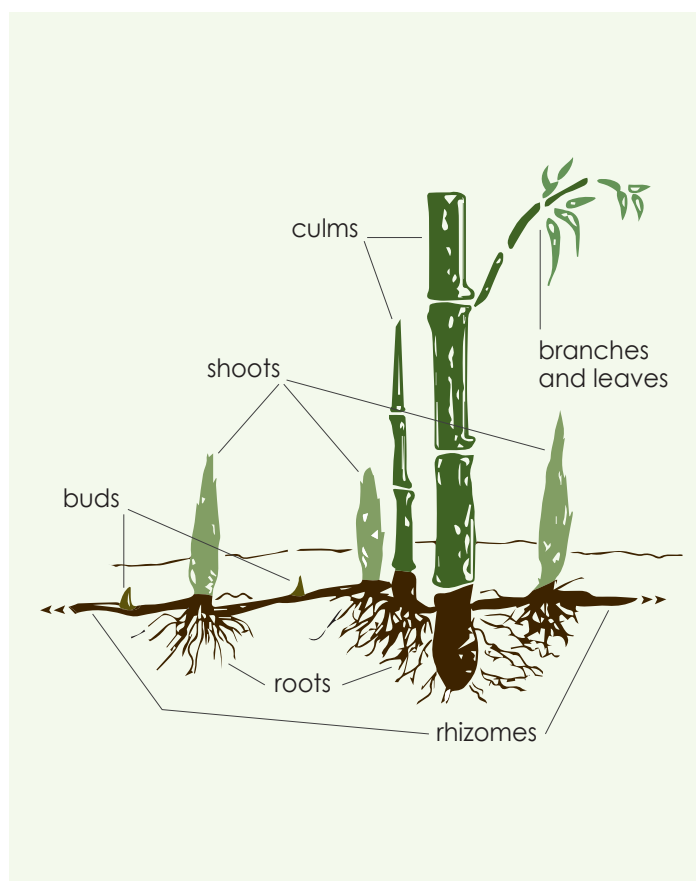
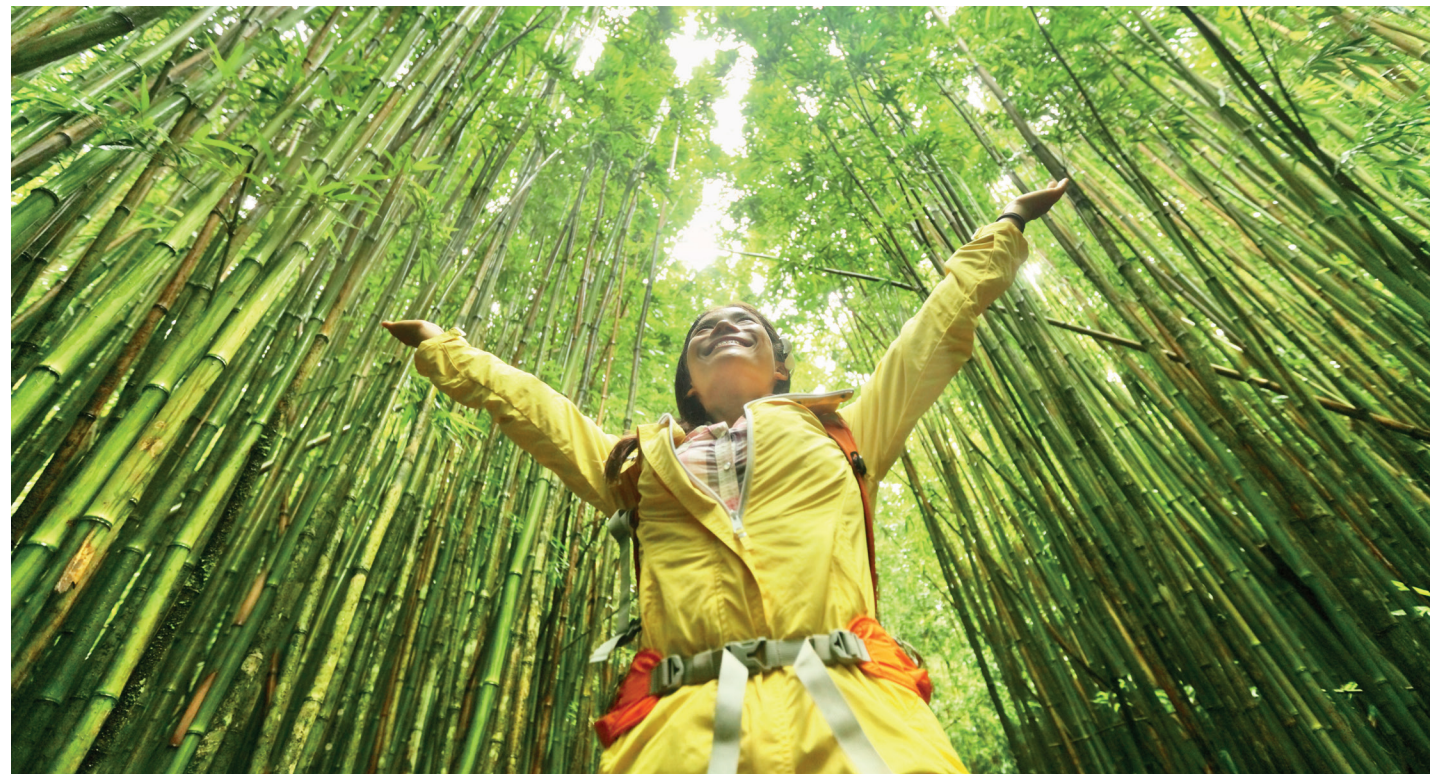


Illustration of the root system of monopodial bamboo

Characteristics and properties of bamboo plants

Noise and fine dust barrier

The leaf mass of bamboo is superior to that of other woody species: it creates a compact leafy barrier that acts as an excellent screen for noise and a filter for fine dust.

Consolidates soils prone to disruption

Its dense root system acts as an underground network which keeps the soil compact, helps prevent erosion and mudslides that may result in landslides.

Revitalisation and purification of soils

Bamboo possesses the ability to revitalise grounds and to absorb and transform contaminants present in the soil, making them richer and cleaner. It can therefore be used for the reclamation of polluted areas.

Evergreen, rustic and resistant

It is a fast-growing evergreen plant, adaptable and flexible, therefore ideal to be used as a windbreak and soundproof barrier. It does not release pollen or seeds and requires no chemical treatment.

Urban forests and fauna protection oases

It is excellent for creating urban forests of various sizes with exceptional visual impact and fast realisation; In addition, the green oases created with bamboo are excellent protection areas for migratory and migratory and resident fauna.

The best response against CO₂

In a world that is increasingly talking about eco-sustainability, bamboo stands out for its ability to store up to 16 times more of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) than a forest of the same size.

With bamboo, it is possible to achieve zero-emission goals!

CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere, due to the increasing use of fossil fuels over the last 2 centuries, are causing serious atmospheric phenomena known as climate change; Arctic sea ice has decreased by an average of 12.85% per decade, tide records show an annual increase average of 3.3 millimetres in sea level since 1870, cyclones and violent floods strike at atypical times of the year compared to the past. A radical change is necessary to ensure a better future for the generations to come.

Everyone can and must play his part: favouring environmentally sustainable products and packaging, choose 'clean' energy sources such as wind turbines or solar panels, planting trees in the garden, choose km0 products, these are small everyday actions that can make a difference, even if they do not reduce CO₂ emissions to zero.

