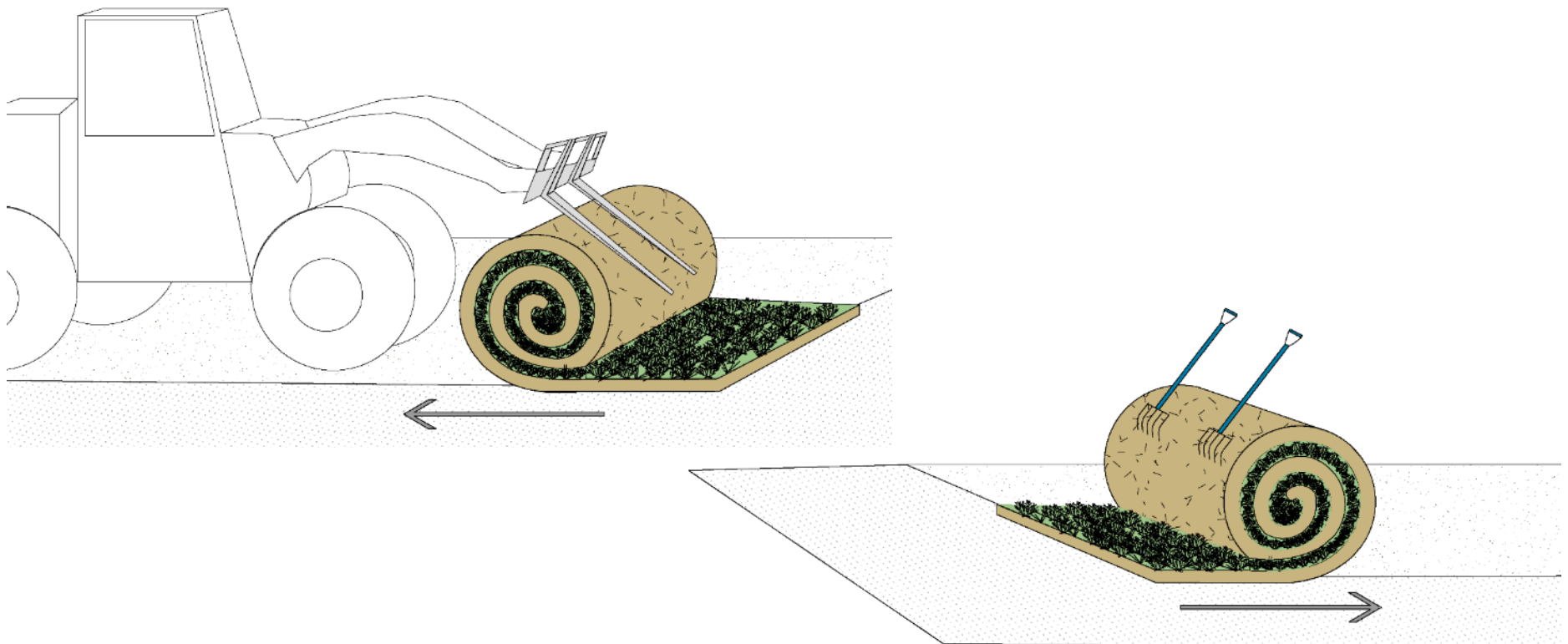


## General information

- Forest mat should be installed in spring or summer about 10 days after it has been extracted from the forest. Forest mat can be stored for longer later in the fall. The date of extraction and the recommended installing time are set out in the Certificate of Origin which comes with the delivery.
- Installing forest mat usually requires a few people and/or heavy machinery equipped with a front loader and forklifts (for shifting the rolls / pieces). A manure fork with tines bent at the end or a strong rake is also useful for laying forest mat. The quickest and most accurate tool for shaping the edges and pieces is generally a chainsaw.
- Forest mat can be moved by hand by placing them on tarpaulin or plastic sheeting and pulling them along the ground. A wheelbarrow is especially useful for moving forest mat longer distances.
- The bigger the pieces are when laid, the better the result: there will be fewer seams and the root system will remain intact, reducing the need for watering after installing.
- **Attention!** Always remember safety. Use protective goggles and hearing protection especially when using a chainsaw. When cutting forest mat, small fragments of material may catapult from the peat layer, vegetation or subsoil via the blade of the saw.

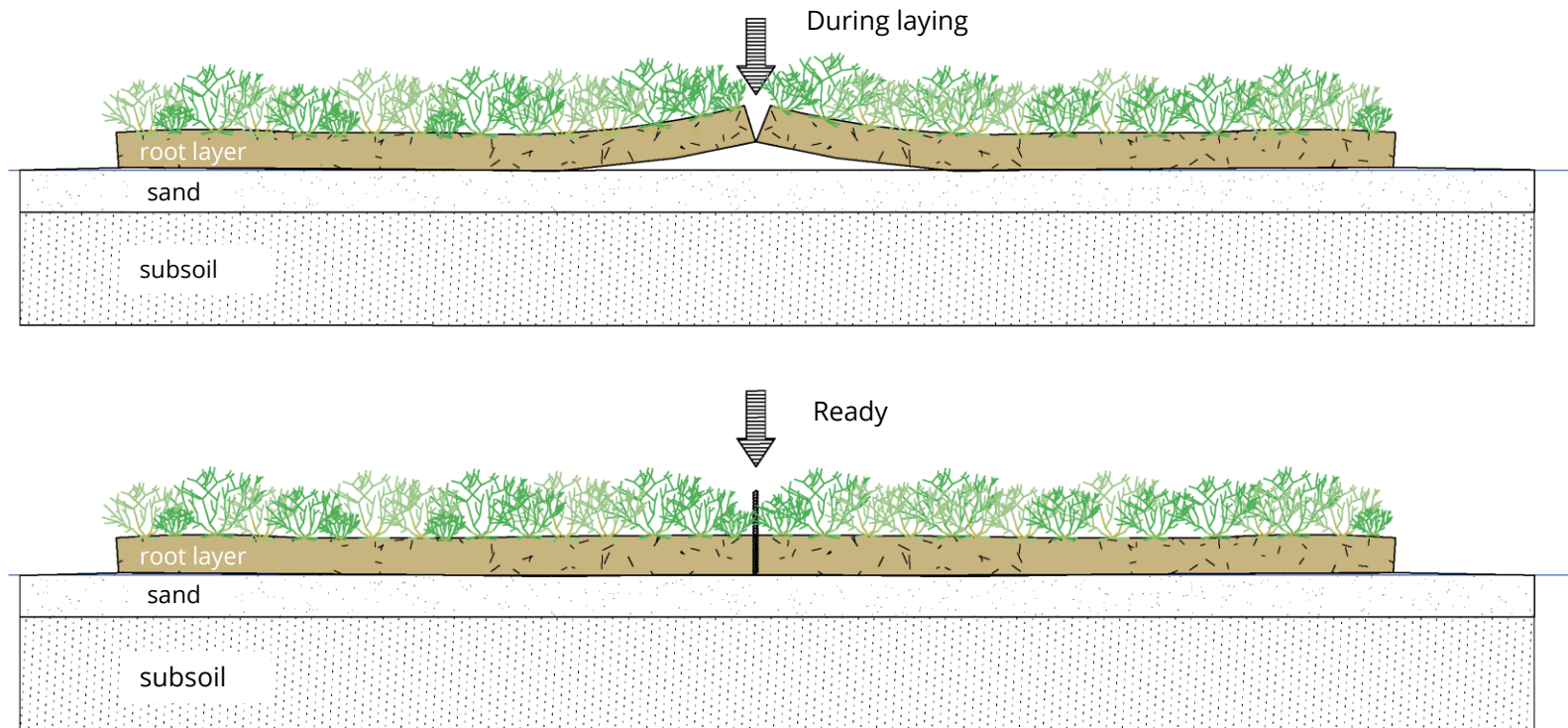
## Installing (1/3)

- When installing as rolls: place the end of the mat from where you want it to start and open the roll.



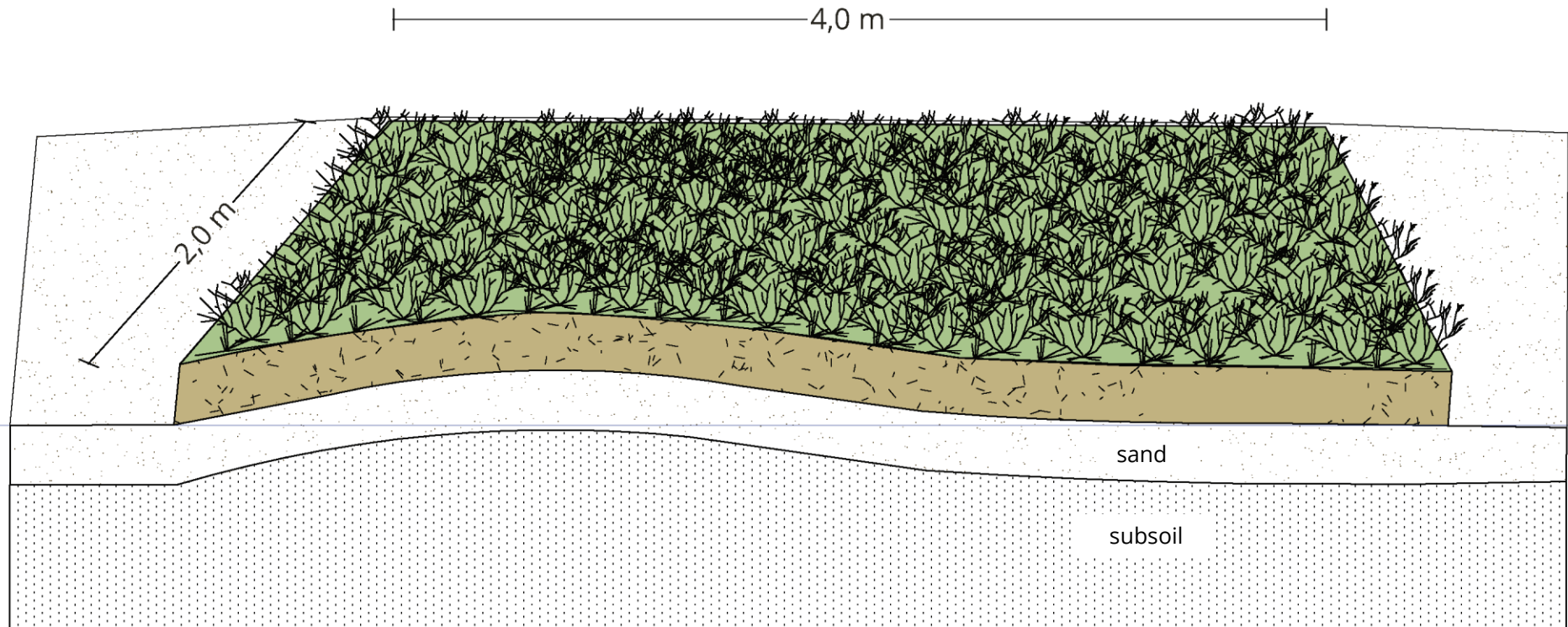
## Laying (2/3)

- The edges of the mats must be well butted against each other. A good seam is neat. Excess room between the pieces could dry out forest mat through its roots.



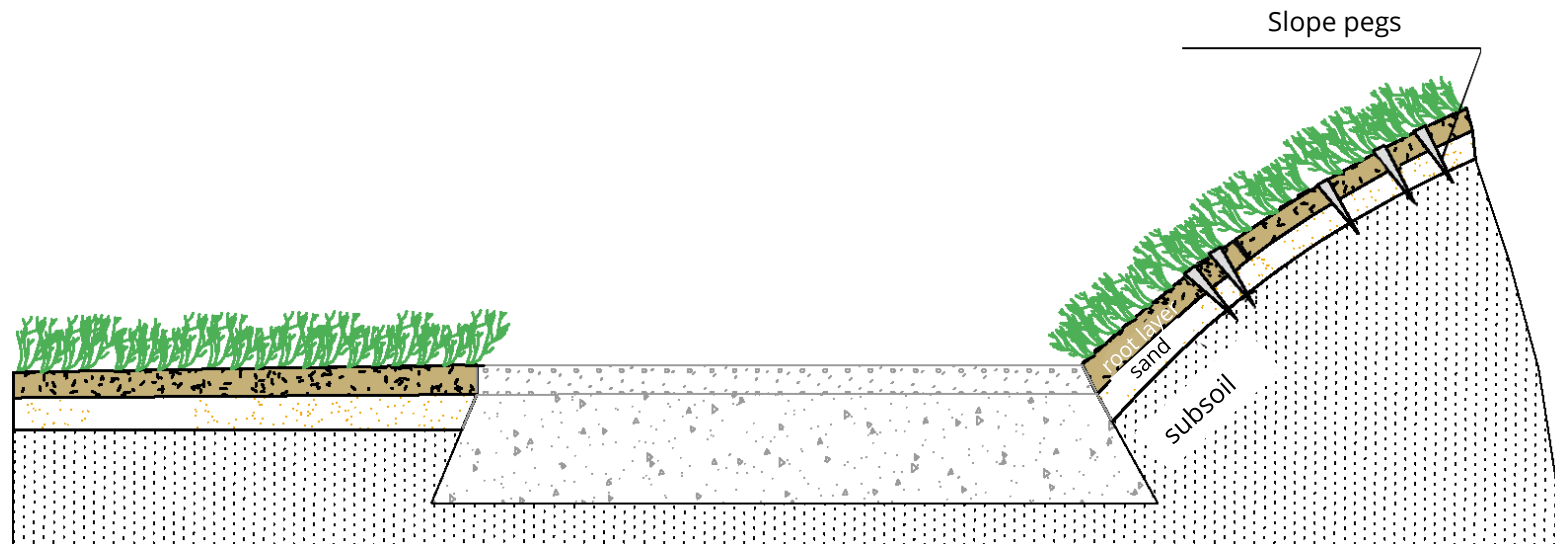
## Laying (3/3)

- The root system of forest mat must be placed firmly flat against the underlying base. The terrain may be uneven, and the mat must be laid so that it follows the shape of the terrain. The root system must not remain suspended in mid-air, so be sure to smooth out any larger lumps and fill in any potholes before laying it out.



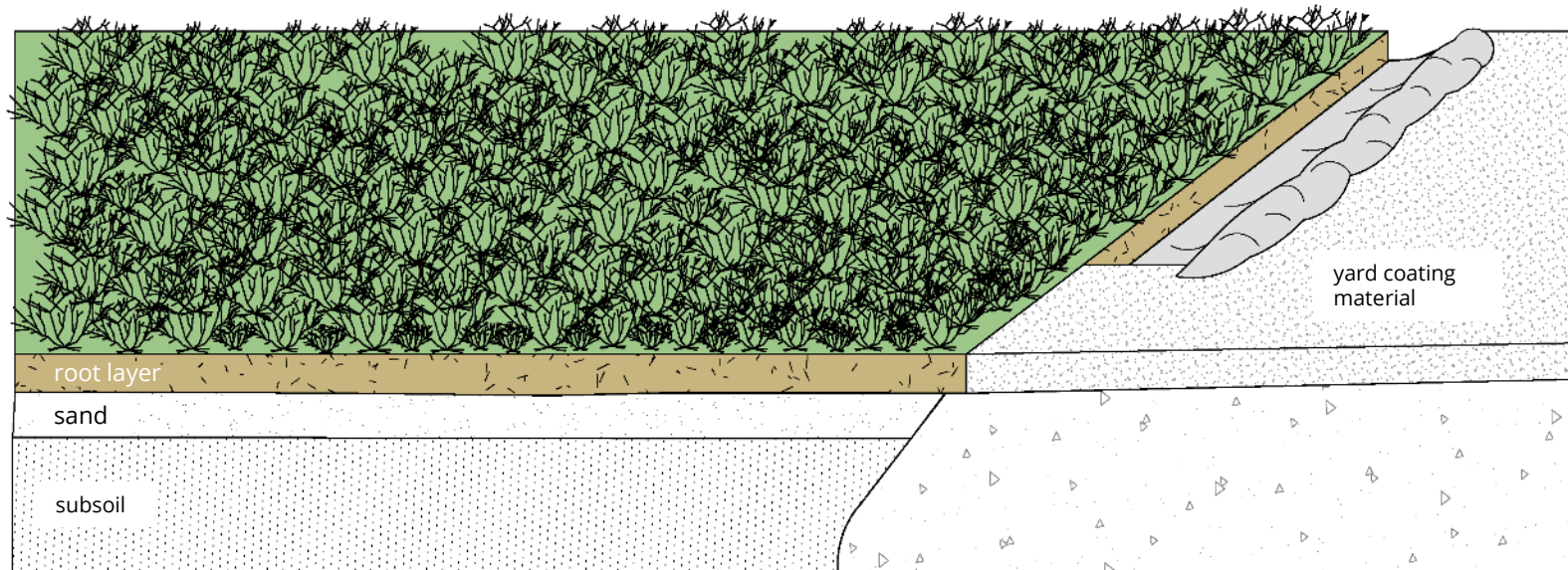
## Final touches (1/3)

- It is necessary to fasten forest mat to the subsoil. For example, 30 cm-long wooden pegs (slope pegs) can be used on slopes and steeper inclines.
- The pegs are driven into the top edge of each piece. The number of pegs needed will depend on the size of the mat and the steepness of the slope. Usually, 3-6 pegs per piece or roll will be enough.



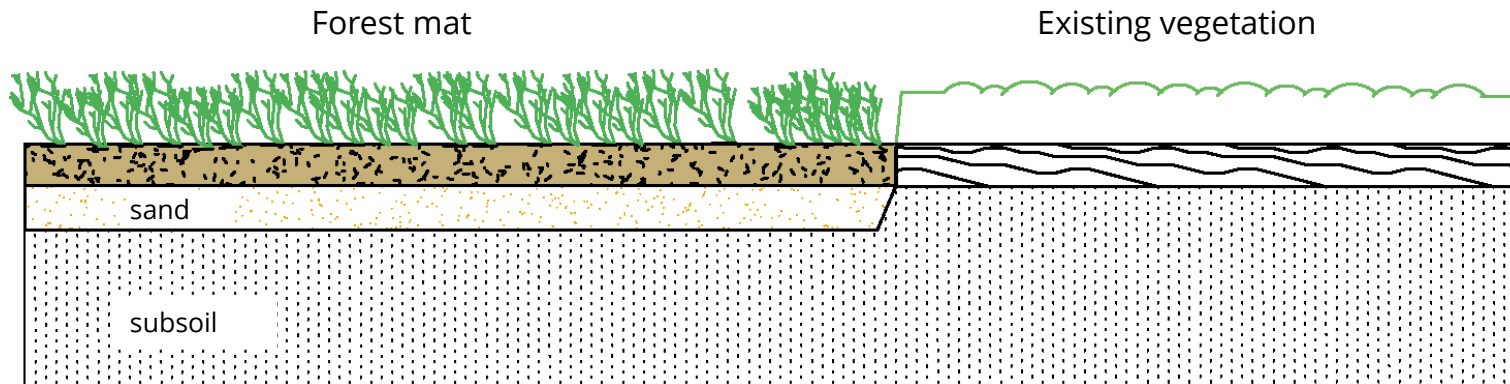
## Final touches (2/3)

- It is easy to spread yard coating materials such as a coating of gravel (for e.g. paths) so that it is at the same level as the top of the growth layer of forest mat.



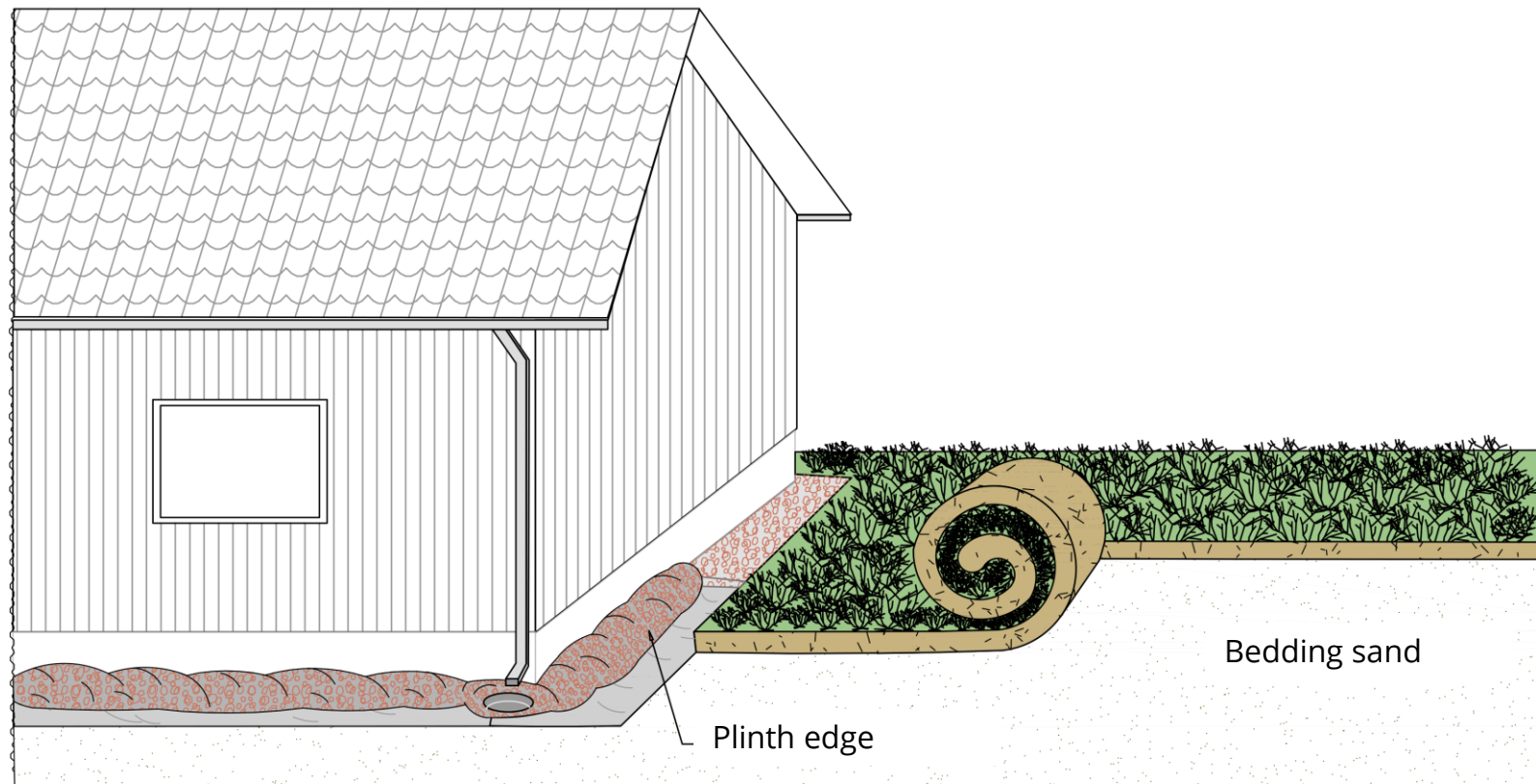
## Final touches (3/3)

- The edges of the area laid with forest mat should be finished by blending them into the environment and if necessary, the edge can be embedded into the existing terrain/vegetation.
- A hidden edge looks neat, and it prevents forest mat from drying out through bare roots.



## Additional tips for successful results (1/2)

- You should not lay forest mat in areas which will not get direct rainfall, as there is a risk for it to dry out. For example, other landscaping materials should be selected for the plinth edge and positioned so that they go under and follow the eave lines.



## Additional tips for successful results (2/2)

- For long slopes and inclines: when possible, you should lay forest mat starting from the bottom and work your way up. This helps ensure that the mats will join up tightly against both the subsoil and each other, as the sections to be installed will tend to slip down a little towards the bottom of the slope. When a section of forest mat has been unrolled and set in place, you should secure it with wooden stakes before continuing with a new piece. It would be ideal if the upper part of the mat could be rolled up and over the slope onto flat ground. It is best to secure the forest mat to a flatter surface, and this will also give a neater appearance.

