

# Damp patches

All EUROSIX fibre cement sheets have passed and meet the BS EN 494 criteria.

When new sheets are installed, especially on roofs with shallow slopes and slow drainage, there is a possibility of moisture accumulating on the undersides, leading to damp areas. This occurrence is typically a result of a combination of permeability and condensation, as the material has the capacity to absorb a significant amount of moisture, up to 25% of its dry weight. However, as the material continues to cure and the cement matrix's pores become filled with crystals, its ability to absorb water diminishes, reducing the occurrence of damp patches. To minimize the likelihood of such patches, it is recommended to ensure proper ventilation during the building's drying-out phase and when using new sheets.

If our EUROSIX fibre cement sheets are installed at an angle lower than the recommended pitch, water runoff may be inadequate, causing water to collect on the sheet surface.

Under specific conditions such as frosty nights or cold rainstorms, condensation can form on the inner surface of the sheets when the material's temperature drops below the dew point of the

surrounding air. While the fibre cement can absorb a considerable amount of this moisture, excessive condensation can result in the formation of droplets that may drip from the underside of the roof. It's worth noting that the condensate has an alkaline nature and, if allowed to dry, it can potentially affect the paintwork of parked vehicles.

To evaluate the material's impermeability, tests are conducted by sealing a frame to the top side of a sheet and filling it with water up to a depth of 60mm. After a 24-hour period, occasional damp patches may be observed on the underside, but no dripping occurs. These test results confirm that the material meets the impermeability requirements specified in BS EN 494.

Over time, moss and lichen may gradually appear on the sheets, which some owners appreciate as it imparts a natural weathered look. However, if you desire to remove this growth, we recommend contacting our Technical Department for appropriate guidance.

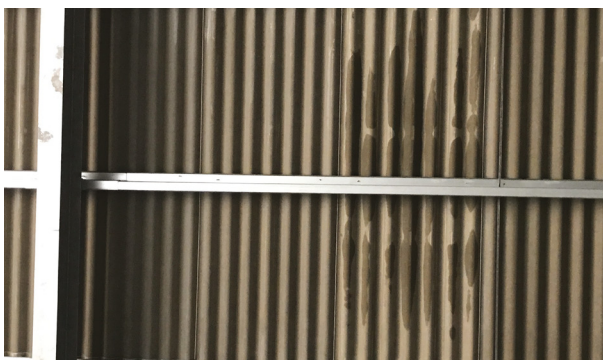


Fig.1 Damp patches visually shown on vertically installed sheeting