



# Care and Planting of Seedlings

## PLANTING GUIDELINES

Protect plants from sunlight, wind and heat before planting.

Keep plants properly stored. Ideal storage is 33 to 35° F, 95+% relative humidity in a wind-protected shaded area with the roots moist. Keep roots in protective covering to prevent drying.

If possible, plant on cloudy, cool, humid days. Remove seedlings from storage only as needed.

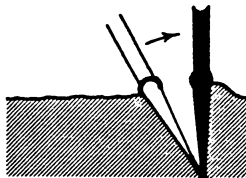
Dip roots in water for a few seconds after removal from storage. Keep roots covered with moist (not saturated) peat moss or burlap until placing into hole. Do not store or soak roots in water.

Set plants straight in hole to avoid crooked trunks. Hold the seedling vertically in the hole with roots hanging straight down and the root collar (*stem:root interface - this area may be swollen or show a color change [dark below/light above]*) at or just below the grade (soil surface). Roots should not curl in the planting hole.

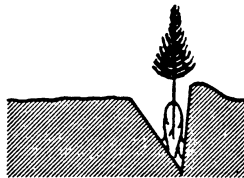
Remove rocks & eliminate air pockets in planting hole. Never heel or stomp the backfill; it damages roots and soil structure. See techniques below.

Water often and deeply, especially in dry weather. Provide weed maintenance, supplemental irrigation, and plant care as needed over the growing season.

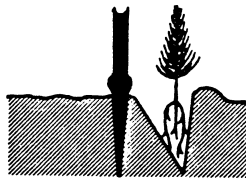
### Planting with Bar (Usually a two-person operation)



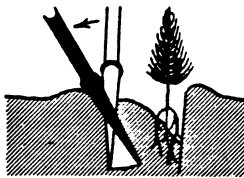
1. Insert bar at angle shown and push forward to upright position.



2. Remove bar and place seedling at correct depth.



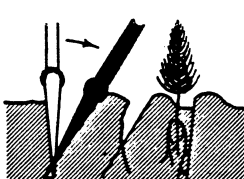
3. Insert bar 2 inches from seedling hole.



4. Pull handle of bar toward you, firming soil at bottom of roots.



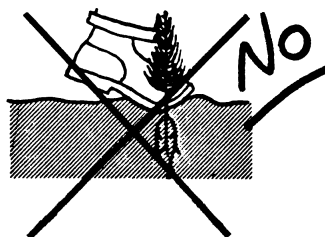
5. Push handle of bar toward seedling, firming soil at top of roots.



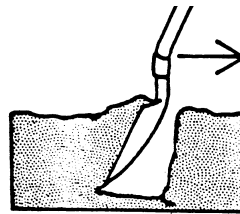
6. Insert bar 2 inches from last hole. Push toward seedling.



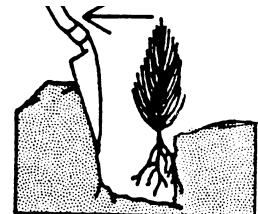
7. Fill last hole by pressing with heel.



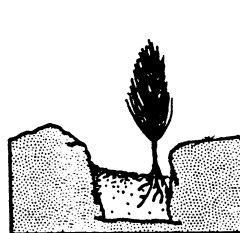
### Planting with Spade or Shovel (Usually a two-person operation)



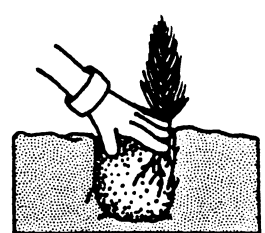
1. Insert shovel vertically with blade reversed, push handle forward, then pull soil back and out of hole.



2. Straighten back of hole and insert tree at proper depth.



3. In first packing, fill hole half-way with soil and place tree in proper position. Water hole to settle soil around roots. Let drain.



4. In second packing, fill the hole completely, pack with hand and cover surface with mulch or loose soil.

### Heeling In

If planting has to be temporarily delayed and refrigerated storage is not available, trees should be unpacked and 'heeled in':

1. Dig V-shaped trench in a moist, shady place.
2. Break bundles and spread out evenly.
3. Fill in with loose soil, water well, let soil drain/settle.
4. Finish filling-in with loose soil and firm with hands.

