

1974

EC74-1738 Tree Planting Guide

Gary T. Christoff

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist>

Christoff, Gary T., "EC74-1738 Tree Planting Guide" (1974). *Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension*. 4265.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/extensionhist/4265>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Extension at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Historical Materials from University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

AGRI

S
85

E7

#74-1738

EC 74-1738

RECEIVED

NOV 12 1974

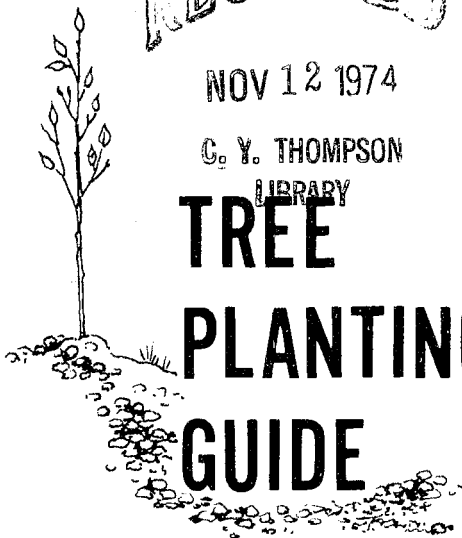
G. Y. THOMPSON

LIBRARY

TREE

PLANTING

GUIDE



Care of Seedlings Before Plantings

Heeling-in Steps

How to Plant

Hand Planting

Weed Control

Protection

Gary T. Christoff
District Extension Forester

Extension work in "Agriculture, Home Economics and subjects relating thereto," The Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Cooperating with the Counties and the U. S. Department of Agriculture
J. L. Adams, Director

Care of Seedlings Before Planting

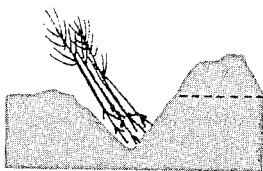
Take care of your tree seedlings immediately upon arrival. If possible, plant at once when you receive shipment. If weather is too cold or too wet for planting, put the box in a **cool** but frostproof cellar and moisten roots. Trees will remain in good condition for several days if properly handled.

If you will not be ready to plant for several days, heel your trees in the ground. Do this in a place where they will have protection from the sun and wind.

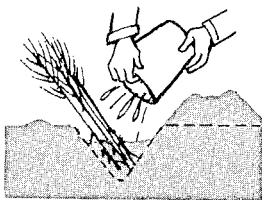
Heeling-In Steps



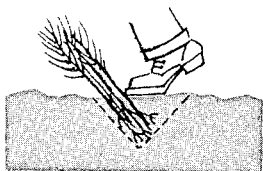
Dig a trench deep enough and wide enough to hold the roots without crowding. Ten feet of trench will hold about 1,000 seedlings.



Cut strings on bundles, place the roots in the bottom of the trench and spread out the roots.



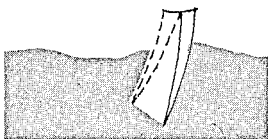
If the soil is dry, water thoroughly. Keep roots moist at all times.



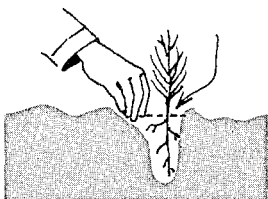
Cover the roots with soil and pack firmly. Air pockets will allow the roots to dry out.

Hand Planting

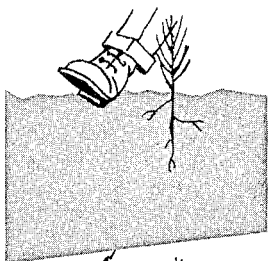
Holes may be dug with a shovel or power auger or slits may be made with a tree planting bar.



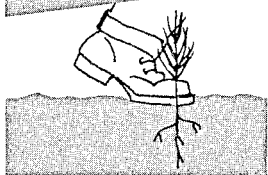
Dig a hole, deep and wide enough to freely contain roots.



Place seedling at correct depth, packing roots with moist soil.



Fill in around seedling by scraping soil with shoe.



Pack soil firmly around seedling.

Keep Roots Moist At All Times

How to Plant

Good planting practices will result in high survival and better tree growth.

Follow these steps in the planting operation:

1. Mark or flag the planting rows. Straight rows simplify cultivation. In some cases of Christmas tree planting, it is desirable to crosscheck the rows, that is, make the spacing between the trees in the row the same distance as between rows. This permits cross-cultivation.

Vary the spacing, depending upon the type of planting, species used, cultivation equipment, planting site, and area of state. Approximate spacings by type of plantings are:

Christmas tree—6' x 6' or 7' x 7'

Erosion control—3' x 4' or 4' x 4'

Woodland—approximately 10' x 15'

Windbreaks—Between row spacing should be 3 to 4 feet wider than cultivation equipment.

Between row—12' to 20'

In row-Shrubs 3' - 4'

Evergreen 6' - 14'

Deciduous 8' - 18'

2. Remove trees from carton, or "heeling-in" trench, and immediately place them in a bucket or similar vessel partly filled with water.

Keep roots moist at all times.

3. Plant by hand or by machine. With either method, follow these rules:

Make the hole or opening large enough to receive the entire root system without crowding or bending. A shallow hole that causes the roots to be turned up at bottom will result in the death of the trees.

Plant each tree the same depth it stood in the nursery bed.

Pack soil firmly around roots and tamp to remove all air pockets.

Cover planting spot with loose soil to serve as a mulch.

Number of seedlings required per acre	
<i>Spacing in feet</i>	<i>Number of trees</i>
4' x 4'	2,700
6' x 6'	1,200
7' x 7'	890
10' x 10'	435
8' x 20'	280

Cultivation and Weed Control

To make the best use of the moisture the seedlings get, keep them free of weeds and grass.

This can be accomplished by cultivation and/or chemical application. A small (6') tandem disk works well, insuring minimum damage to the trees. Cultivate regularly, until the trees are able to shade most of the grasses and weeds out.

Preemergence chemicals are effective for weed control. They stay in the top 2" of soil, out of the tree root zone. Here they are readily taken up by roots of small weeds.

On medium to heavy soils use 4 lb/acre active ingredient, simazine, while on sandy soils 2 lb/acre active will suffice. For more information on application and sprayer calibration, see NebGuide 73-33 "Chemical Weed Control in Trees," available at your County Extension Office.

Protection

Livestock and trees are not compatible. Fencing is an important part of any wind break planting. Protection from rabbits, mice, moles, can be accomplished by repellents and poisons. Use only recommended treatments.

Replant all losses during first and second years to avoid future wind tunnels.