

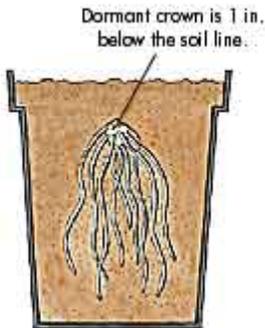
If you have purchased bare root plants, pot them up for the first season for best results.

How to pot up

Bare-root plants are best planted right away. If you can't, start them off in pots. This lets you control how much water they get. If the roots are dry, soak them in cool water for an hour before you plant. Choose a container with room for the roots and crown to grow, and fill it with moist, coarse potting mix. Many of us were taught to first add pebbles or some other drainage media to the bottom of the pot first. In reality, however, this reduces the growing area for the roots and actually hastens decline of the potting soil by paradoxically reducing aeration.

Do not skimp on pot size (see illustration). One of the main causes of plant collapse is planting too deep. Make sure the newly potted plant isn't planted deeper than its crown.

If the plant is just crown and roots — plant it as you see in the illustration. The crown should be about an inch below soil level. Gently firm the soil around your new plant, but don't compact it too much.



Water thoroughly, and if necessary, add a little more soil to top it off. You should water until liquid seeps from the drainage holes at the bottom of the pot.

And now for the surprise: Don't water again until you see new growth poking up in two or three weeks. Even then, give just enough to keep the potting mix from drying out. Over-watering can kill a bare-root perennial. If it's been a couple of weeks and you haven't seen anything, or the soil is dry an inch down from the top, it's OK to give it a short drink then. When plants start to grow, set them outdoors in a cold frame or sheltered spot. Perennials are hardy, but if they lose

foliage in a sudden freeze, it can slow them down, so keep an eye on them because you may need to protect them.

Into the garden

Care for your plants through the summer months in an area where you can enjoy and water them. During this time prepare the area where they are to be planted. In the fall as they go dormant, they are now ready to move to your prepared site! By following these steps, your perennials will take advantage of the winter rains, and bloom sooner and bigger — just what we all want.

TREE CARE INSTRUCTIONS

This tree has been selected by the Benton County Small Woodland Association to grow in this area. Take care of it and enjoy!

Prompt Care of Your Trees

A tree out of the ground is like a fish out of water; the longer it is out, the less chance it has of living.

Be sure the tree roots are not allowed to dry out or be exposed to warm temperatures from the time the trees arrive until they are planted. Exposure of root systems to drying conditions - sun or wind - is the cause of many planting failures. If planting is possible within a week after you received your trees from the nursery, they may be left in the original package for transporting to the planting area. Keep the roots moist. Be sure to store the package in a cool place. Refrigerated storage is ideal, but covering packaged tree seedlings with snow or space blankets in a shaded location will keep them in good shape for several days. Ideal temperature must be $36^{\circ} \pm 2^{\circ}$ with 95 percent humidity.

Heeling In

If planting has to be 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 or 4 trees thick; (3) fill in loose soil and water well; (4) complete filling in soil and firm with hands.

Correct Planting

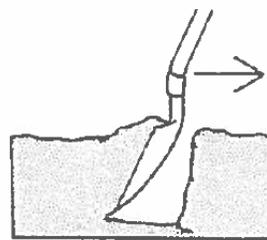
Keep the roots moist. Keep the root system covered and moist from the moment the plants are taken from the shipping bundle or from the heeling-in trench until they are planted. Any suitable container (bucket, bag or planting tray) can be used for carrying the trees during the planting operation. Keep wet material around the roots to prevent their damage through exposure. Never carry a handful of trees exposed to the sun and wind. Take one tree at a time from the carrying container and plant it immediately.

Ground Preparation

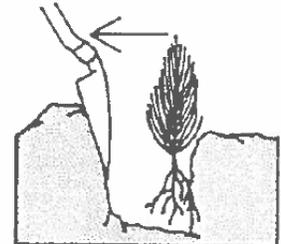
If your land can be worked, prepare a clean, firm seedbed from your tree planting because good ground preparation conserves soil moisture for the trees. Shallow disking or harrowing just before planting is adequate on cultivated land that has no weed problem. Areas with perennial grasses or weeds should be summer fallowed, then disked or harrowed before

planting time. After disking or harrowing, the ground should be rolled or cultipacked to be sure the soil is firm.

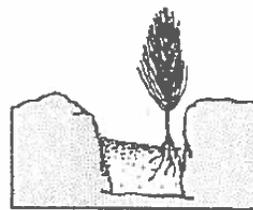
Planting with Spade or Shovel (Usually a 2-person operation)



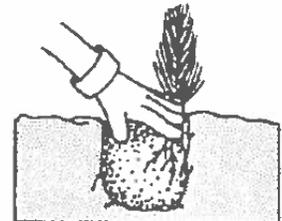
1. Insert shovel vertically with blade reversed, push handle forward, then pull soil back and out of hole.



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.



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

Care after Planting

The first two years after planting are critical for young trees. Survival and soil moisture go "hand in hand." These procedures will help maintain good soil moisture.

1. Keep your planting free of weeds and grasses by SHALLOW cultivation when weeds are small and by the use of pre-emergent herbicides. Tree plantings should be clean cultivated as long as equipment can go between the trees.
2. Farm tree plantings in irrigated areas should be watered often enough to keep the soil moist and the plants in active growth. Water small trees weekly.

You rarely need to fertilize seedlings at planting time. When fertilization is desirable, use a special slow-acting fertilizer. The use of regular commercial fertilizers or fresh manure at planting time often results in severe damage to the trees.