

Bare Root Seedlings

Transportation

- Handle trees gently – don't throw, drop, stack or sit on bags
- Keep the trees cool during transportation and do not leave in vehicle for extended periods

Storage

- Ideal storage temperature for trees is 2-5°C. Store them in a cool area of the barn, garage or basement.
- Plant the trees within 24 hours

Getting Ready

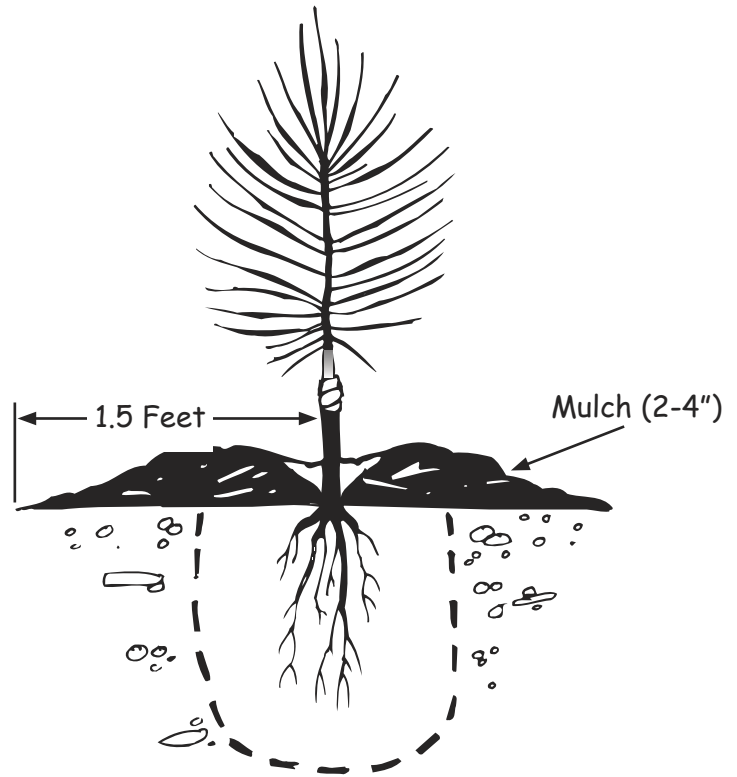
- Do not open bags until ready to plant
- Never leave the roots exposed
- Keep the roots moist by securely resealing partially used bag and returning it to a cool location
- Cut the elastics around the bundles instead of ripping them off
- Carefully separate the roots without damaging them; do not prune the roots
- If the roots seem dry, dip them in water but do not leave them submerged
- Keep the roots moist by placing them in a bucket or planting bag with a little water on the bottom

Planting Site

- Proper site preparation is essential to control weed competition; talk to UTRCA forestry staff for advice
- Clear any debris (stumps, rocks, etc.) from planting site
- Avoid planting in wet depressions
- **Where NOT to plant:**
 - Under utility wires (plant at least 5 m/16 ft away)
 - Within a road allowance
 - Over septic system
 - Under crown of a live tree
 - Close to buildings
 - Near field tiles or drain outlets
 - Follow municipal setbacks from drains

Planting

- Remove sod prior to digging
- The planting hole must be deep and wide enough to accommodate the entire root system, allowing the roots to hang straight down in the hole in a natural arrangement. Do not bunch, wrap, spiral or bend the roots.
- Check the seedling is vertical and cover the roots with soil. The soil should be level with the root collar (a slight change in colour and/or a swelling on the trunk).



- To remove air pockets and prevent the roots from drying out, tamp the soil firmly with your toe
- Do not bury any branches or leave any roots exposed to the air

Mulching & Weed Control

- To reduce weed competition, either mulch with composted hardwood chips or apply herbicide.
- Mulch will also retain moisture and reduce fluctuations in soil temperature. Spread mulch in a circle around the tree to a depth of 5-10 cm (2-4 in), keeping it away from the trunk to avoid stem rot.
- Cut the grass between the rows two or three times during the growing season
- Do not use string grass/weed trimmers around any trees, regardless of size

Watering

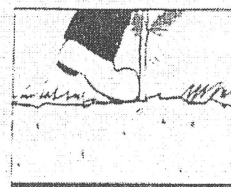
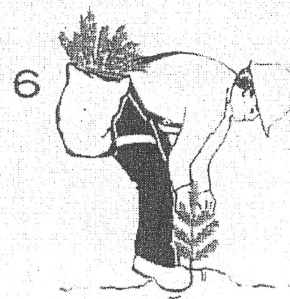
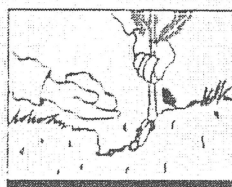
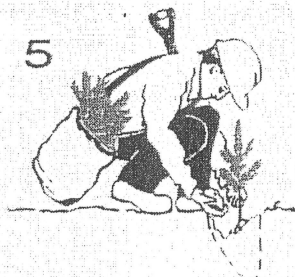
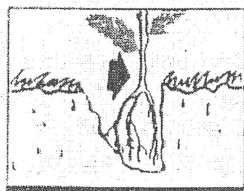
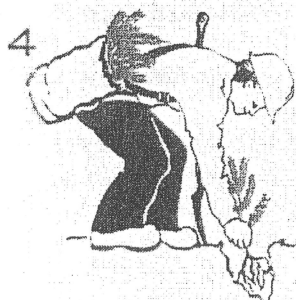
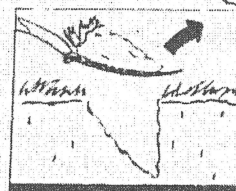
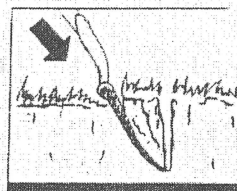
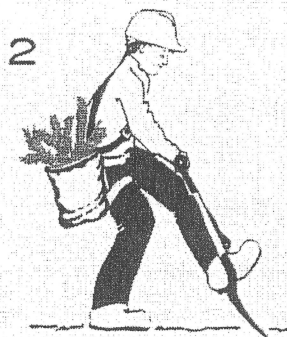
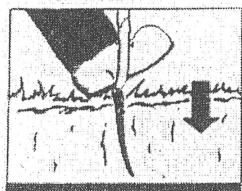
- Water the trees if there is an extended dry spell

Markers

- Place stakes outside the last row of trees to protect them from being cut or plowed under

Planting the Trees

Figures 1-3: Prepare a planting hole by removing a wedge of soil. Dig one side of the hole straight down.



Figures 4-6: Place roots in the planting hole. Spread soil around the roots ensuring good contact. Tamp the soil around the base of the seedling with your toe.