

# Planting Guidelines

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Teddy Reynolds, BSF, RF, SR

## **Transferring Seedlings from Refrigerated Reefer into Satellite Trailer:**

Estimate number of seedlings for 1 day (approximately 1,000 seedlings per bag).

Seedling bags must be stored overnight on racks to help maintain airflow between 33 and 36 degrees.

Only place enough bags in Trailer from reefer for 1 day. Trailer must be enclosed.

Do not stack over 3 bags high in satellite trailer.

Do not throw or drop seedling bags (discard bags that are broken open).

Number bags with black marker in reverse chronological from back to front as place in trailer.

## **Packing Seedlings into Planter Bags:**

Do not over pack planter bags (able to slide hand between seedlings and bag).

Do not remove slurry from seedling roots (do not hit seedlings against anything to remove slurry).

Do not separate seedlings prior to placing in bag.

Pour slurry into planter bag from seedling bag.

## **Planting:**

Cull seedlings that do not have good roots.

Cull short roots, roots without a lot of capillary roots, and seedlings with bad crown trees (yellow needles).

Plant seedlings x feet apart in the beds (each planter pre-measure steps to loggers tape for seedling spacing).

Double dibble planting.

Remove only one seedling at a time for planting.

First dibble straight into ground and pull back 45 degrees (2 inches deeper than planting seedling).

Ensure seedlings planted well below top of root collar. Better to plant too deep than too shallow.

Push seedling too deep, then pull up 1-2 inches (prevents J & L rooting)

Second dibble straight into ground 3 - 5 inches beside first dibble then pull back (packs bottom) and push forward (packs top).

Pack second dibble hole firmly with boot (seedling should be tight when tugged; it should not move when tugged).

Seedling should stand up straight within 20 degrees. If leans, then press second time with boot to straighten.

Skip planting where there is a lot of debris in the bed (even if throws off spacing).

Ensure dibble is inserted into the bed deeper than the seedling planting depth (decreases J & L rooting and shallow planting).

## **Putting Seedlings up at End of Day:**

Seedlings left in planter's bag must be discarded at end of day (estimate how many are discarded each day).

Seedling bags opened, but not completely used must be checked for coolness prior to being placed back in reefer.

Opened seedling bags still in the trailer that are warm (not "very cold" when hand slid into seedlings), must be discarded.

Burn seedling bags at end of day.

## **Supervisor/Inspector Field Plots:**

Equipment: a) dibble with screw in handle b) loggers tape c) flags d) form e) ruler f) marker & pencil g) clip-board h) maps f) calculator g) pole.

One plot per 10 acres installed.

Flag plot and write plot number on flagging and record on form.

Notate plot location on topographic map and number the plot on the map.

1/50th acre plot (16.7 foot radius)

Place plots' center row behind planter and record their name (names of other two rows not needed; let him know results).

Check by poles for 6.5 feet between seedlings (not paid for seedlings over 10% high)

Tug seedlings to see if tight.

Observe that seedlings planted below root collar.

Check to make sure not plant weak or inferior looking seedlings (they should have been culled).

Dig up one seedling per plot to check for J and L roots (if find J or L root dig up second seedling in same row)

- if second seedling also J or L rooted, have planter return to redo their row.

- also check to see if seedling roots of good form (make sure did not plant seedlings that should have been culled).

Between plots tug seedlings, measure spacing, checking for straightness, and checking for skipped rows.

## **Penalty System**

1) Trees planted under 50 trees per acre of target trees, penalized 1/2 cent of all trees planted. If greater than 50 trees then penalized 1 cent.

2) Extra trees planted over 50 trees per acre of target trees not paid for.

3) Percent of trees over 5% J or L rooted not paid for.

4) If over 10% of trees leaning greater than 20 degrees then penalized 1/2 cent; 11-20%=minus 1 cent; 21-30% = minus 1.5 cents, etc.

5) Percent of trees over 10% not tight to the tug not paid for.

6) Target trees determined by instructed space between seedlings and intended bed or rip width.

7) Plots not correctly taken or recorded penalized 1/2 cent of total trees planted.

8) Improper seedling handling penalized 1/2 cent after two written warnings.