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How to Plant Evergreen Seedlings

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
HOW TO PLANT EVERGREEN SEEDLINGS

Tree planting stock is available from State nurseries at cost of production. Application forms are available, usually from September through March, from county Extension offices, Soil Conservation district offices, State service foresters and Extension foresters. They are also available from the State Division of Forestry, 607 State Office Building, Indianapolis, or the Department of Forestry and Conservation, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind. The above offices can also provide lists of commercial nurseries where tree planting stock may be purchased.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spacing</th>
<th>Number of trees</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 x 6</td>
<td>1210</td>
<td>Optimum for erosion control and Christmas trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 x 8</td>
<td>680</td>
<td>Best spacing for general reforestation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 x 12</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Minimum for windbreaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 x 16</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Best for windbreaks on good soils</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Protection

It is a waste of time to plant trees unless they are permanently protected from fire and domestic livestock, including poultry.

If trees cannot be planted same day as received, open bundle and heel in.

During planting keep roots moist.
HAND PLANTING (center-hole method)

1. Dig hole large enough to spread roots.
2. Partly fill hole and pack soil.
3. Add more soil and firm with foot.
4. Add loose soil as mulch.

Plant to proper depth to insure optimum growth and survival.

Too deep.  
Too shallow.  
Right depth.

HAND PLANTING (planting bar or tile spade)

Insert planting bar into the ground the full length of the blade.
Withdraw.
Insert seedling carefully with root straight in slit and seedling upright.
Insert planting bar, pressing soil against root.
Complete the planting by firming the surface soil with the heel. Be sure the tree is upright.