

AFTER CARE OF SEMI-MATURE TREES

The successful establishment of your new tree(s) will depend directly on the after care you provide in the first year

Our semi-mature trees have been professionally grown and nurtured to give you many years of pleasure in your garden. Here we offer a few tips from our extensive experience, to get the most out of your new tree(s).

GENERAL CARE

First Year After Planting

A meter diameter around the base of the newly planted tree should be kept weed and **grass** free at all times. A mulch of bark or compost to a depth of 75mm will help to maintain this vegetation free zone.

Second Year After Planting

Top up mulching material to the required 75mm depth. Continue watering in dry spells only – as described.

Third Year After Planting

Treat as in year 2, mulching and watering in very dry hot spells. Overground guy ropes, stakes and ties may be removed after the 3rd spring – underground guying systems do not need removing.

WATER CONTROL

Water control is the major factor governing the health and successful establishment of newly planted trees.

It is very difficult to advise on the exact quantity of water to give – application rates vary according to species, soil, site and prevailing weather conditions. One rule however, can be given - a newly planted tree must not be allowed to dry out during the first two years after planting. Do not wait until you see leaves wilt to apply water – you will probably be too late! Equally, be careful excessive water can also be fatal, and cause the tree to wilt.

IF IN DOUBT RING US - 01394 460755

First Year After Planting

A monitored watering regime should commence around the end of March/early April and continue until the end of October – depending on weather conditions. Once the worst of winter has past and spring is on the way the sap will start to rise in the tree – water is now essential:-

Apply the water slowly around the tree to avoid excessive run-off or into the underground irrigation tube if fitted. Never put the hose on and leave it running.

The following rates should be used as a guide:

14cm–20cm girth –30L (6 gal)

once a week;

20cm-35cm girth –50L (12 gal)

once a week;

35cm+ girth – 100L (24 gal)

once a week.

Apply this when there has been no appreciable rain for 7 days or when we have experienced drying winds or very high temperatures.

During extended periods of very high temperatures, drying winds or on soils that are very light, apply these rates twice a week.

Second Year After Planting

Less artificial watering will be required, as the tree will have established its root system. It may need watering in periods of prolonged hot weather or in drying winds – application rates as in Year 1 – but not on a continuous basis.

STAKES & GUYS

Check every 6 months, ensure that the tree is not rubbing on the stake and the ties are not loose. Check that any guy wires are tight and there is no chaffing where the collar is secured on the tree.

THE GUYS OR STAKES SHOULD REMAIN IN POSITION FOR AT LEAST 3 YEARS AND ON EXPOSED SITES FOR 4-5 YEARS.

PESTS

Ensure that the tree is kept free of aphids, caterpillars, red spider and fungal infections.