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MINNESOTA TREE LINE

Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
DOCUMENTS
APR 25 1977
ST. PAUL CAMPUS

How to Plant a Tree

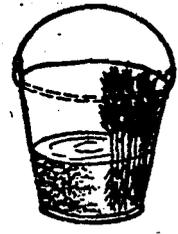
No. 3 - 1977
Harold Scholten

CARE OF SEEDLINGS AT PLANTING SITE



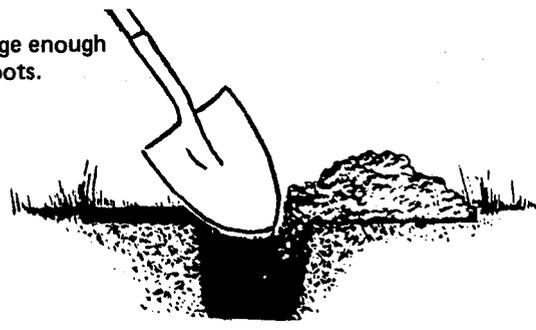
Incorrect
If exposed to air, tiny roots will dry out in a short time.

Correct
Place seedlings in pail. Keep roots covered with water at all times.



CONIFER SEEDLINGS

1. Dig hole large enough to spread roots.



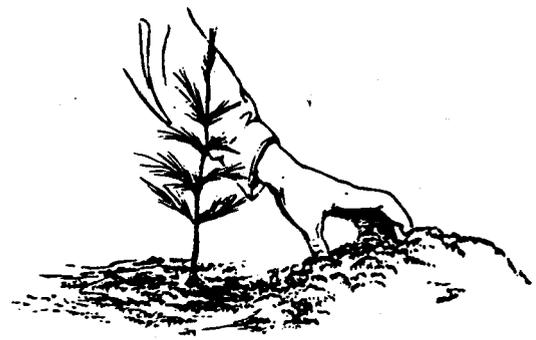
2. Partly fill hole and pack soil.



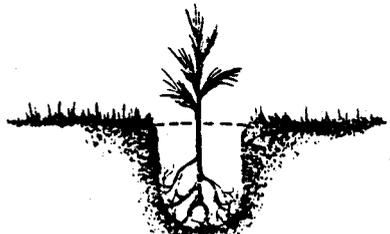
3. Add more soil and firm with foot.



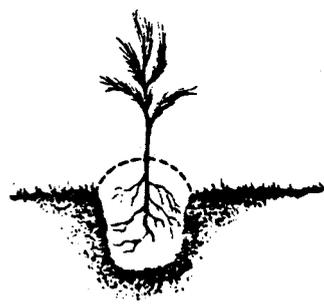
4. Add loose soil as mulch.



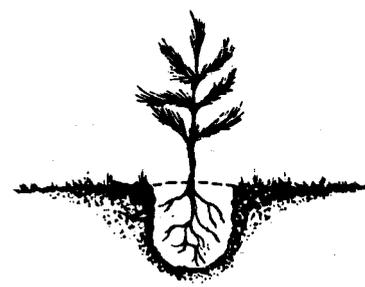
Plant to proper depth to insure optimum growth and survival.



Too deep.



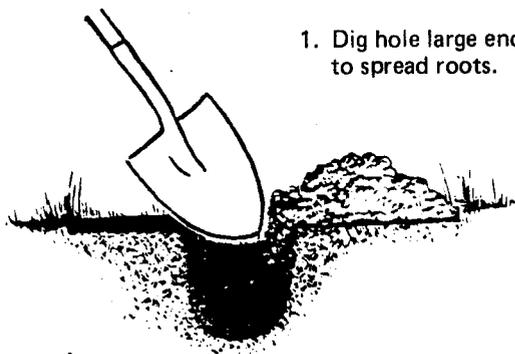
Too shallow.



Right depth.

HARDWOOD SEEDLINGS

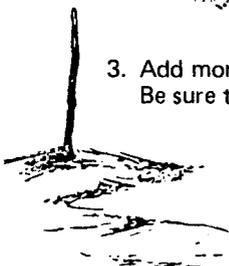
1. Dig hole large enough to spread roots.



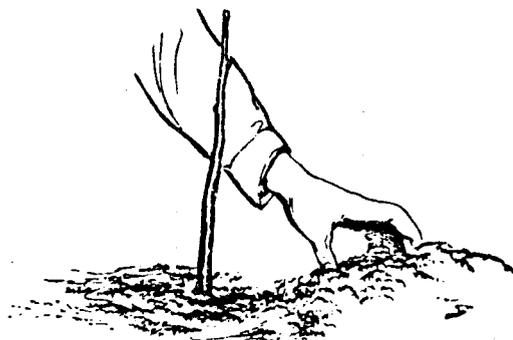
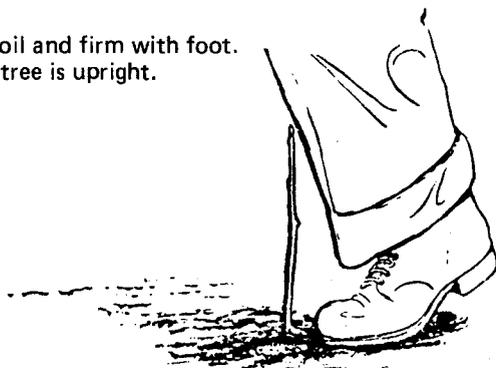
2. Partially fill hole and firm soil.



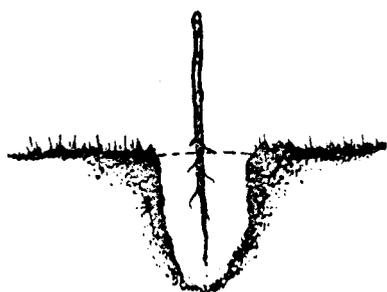
3. Add more soil and firm with foot. Be sure the tree is upright.



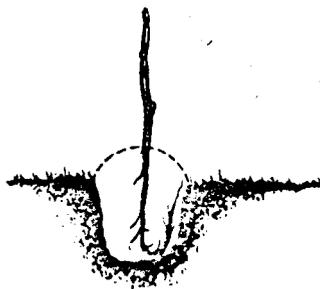
4. Add loose soil as mulch.



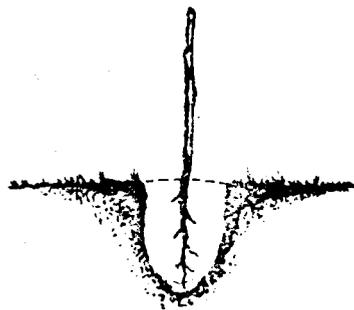
Plant to proper depth to insure optimum growth and survival.



Too deep.



Too shallow.



Right depth.

Do not root prune the seedlings.

Do not bend or cut tap roots.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. The best time to plant is early spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Trees will then receive maximum benefit from spring rains.
2. If soil where tree is to be planted is very sandy or a heavy clay, replace with a good black loamy soil. (Most trees prefer a moist, well-drained soil).
3. Small seedlings grow into large trees:
 - a) Do not plant too close to buildings. Branches next to buildings will die out.
 - b) Do not plant too close to sidewalks and drives. Roots eventually will heave concrete.
 - c) Do not plant under shade of larger trees.
4. When planting, leave soil around tree in a saucer-shape so water will soak in around roots.
5. Give tree a good watering right after planting. Water periodically.
6. Mulching will conserve moisture even during dry periods. A bushel of ground cobs or a mixture of sawdust and wood shavings around each tree will do a good job. Mulched trees will not have to be watered as often as unmulched trees.
7. If you want a tall, straight, well formed tree, do some corrective pruning to eliminate forks and double leaders while the tree is still young.