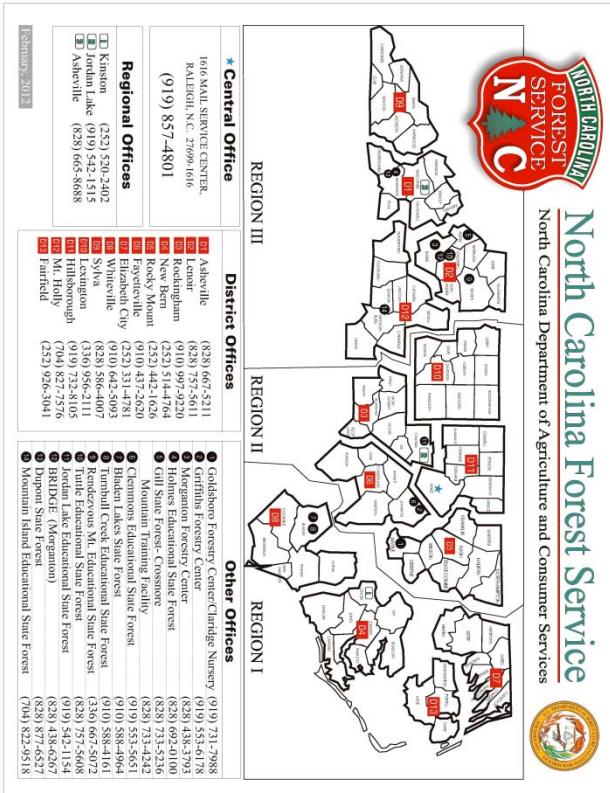


# NC Forest Service

## Seedling Planting Standards



### Planting Categories

Satisfactory Day

Temperature: 33-75°F

Wind: Less than 10 miles/hour

Humidity: 50%+

Marginal Day

Temperature: 76-85°F

Wind: 10 miles/hour +

Humidity: 30-50%

Severe Day(not recommended)

Temperature: 32°F or less, or 85° or more.

Wind: 15 miles/hour or more.

Humidity: 30% or less

### Tree Planting Standards for On Site Storage

- Store the seedlings in shaded location at all times.
- A heat shield is preferred.
- Make sure roots are visibly moist at all times.
- Keep opened bags closed tightly by folding flap over bag and laying flap-side down or by placing a band or cord firmly around bag. Keep in shade.

### Tree Planting Standards for Root Pruning

- Do not prune unless necessary
- When handling, carefully separate seedlings to minimize damage to root system.
- Remove only a small number (handful) of seedlings at a time.
- Roots must be kept visibly moist.
- Do not prune tap or lateral roots of loblolly or white pine seedlings shorter than 4.5 ".
- Do not root prune the tap root of longleaf seedlings.
- Excessively long lateral roots can be pruned to no less than 6 ".

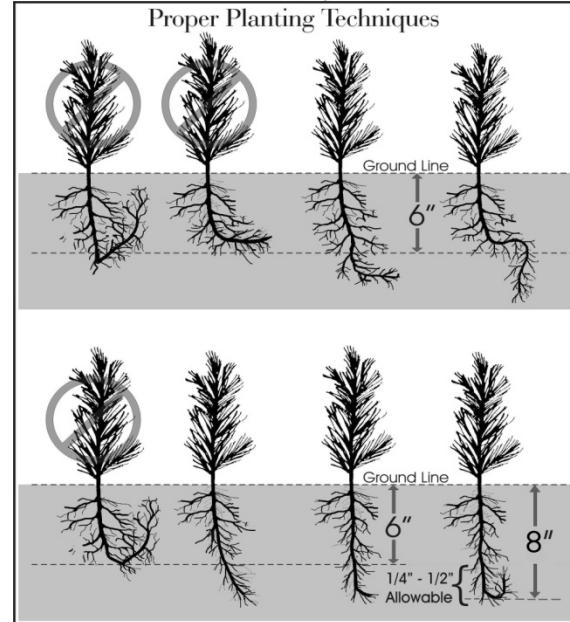
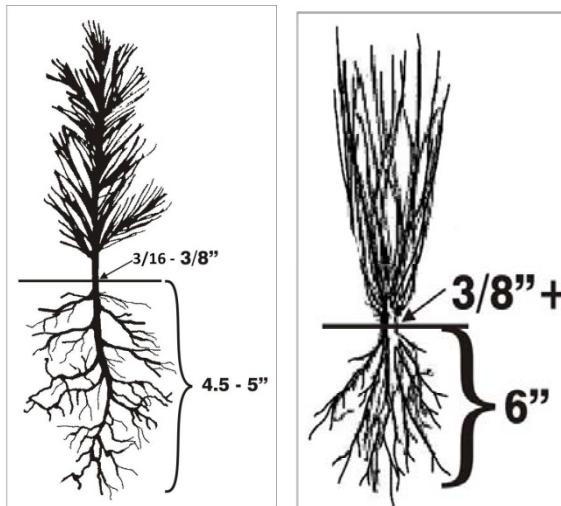
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## Tree Planting Standards for Culling

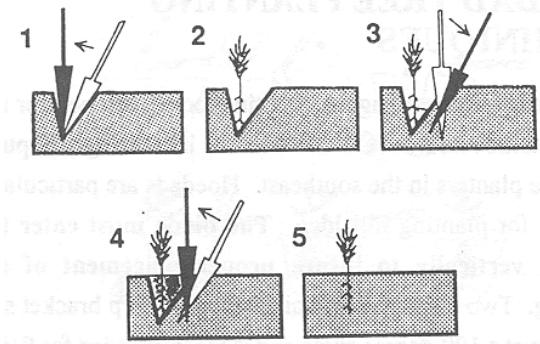
- Cull loblolly or whit pine seedlings that have:
  - Broken, skinned or weak stem.
  - Fermented smell.
  - Mold on needles.
  - Slippery bark.
  - Root collar smaller than 3/16".
  - Root collar larger than 3/8".
  - Root systems less than 4 1/2".
  - Broken or skinned tap root.
- Cull bare-root longleaf seedlings that have:
  - Root collar diameter less than 3/8 or 4/10 of an inch.
  - Tap root shorter than 6 inches.
- Open only 1 bag at a time. Be careful not to leave container open more than a few minutes.
- Remove only a small number (handful) of seedlings at a time. Do not allow the roots to be exposed to the sun or wind any longer than 5 minutes.

## Acceptable Tree Diameters for Planting

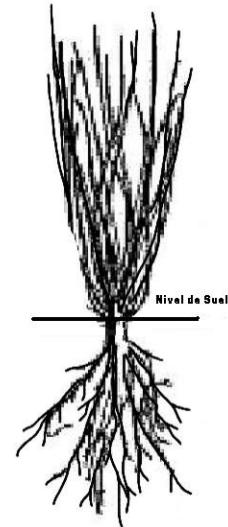
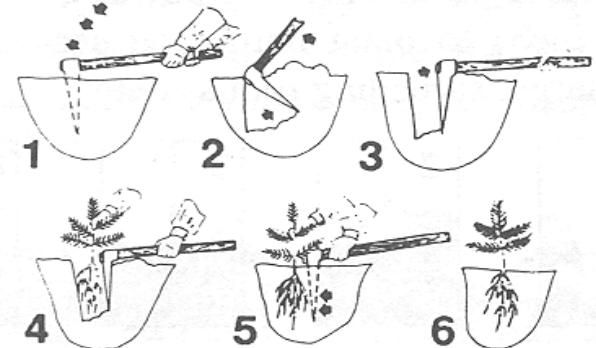


- Do not use dibbles or other tools that will not make a hole at least 8 inches deep.

## Steps in Bar Planting



## Steps in Hoedad Planting



Proper planting depth is where the base of the bud is at ground level and the root collar is completely below ground.